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We believe in team's cause at CSK: Dube

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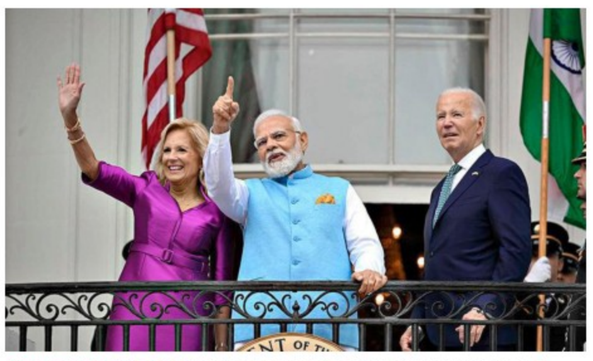
Modi's U.S. visit yields many vital agreements

PM and Biden announce deals on jet engine tech transfers, drones, health and space cooperation; democracy is in our veins, says Modi, maintaining that there is no discrimination in India

Sriram Lakshman
WASHINGTON



Stronger bond: Narendra Modi and Joe and Jill Biden during a welcome ceremony for the Prime Minister at the White House. AFP

India and the U.S. on Thursday announced a number of agreements on defence cooperation, critical and emerging technologies, health, environment, visas and space – including a deal which could pave the way for an unprecedented transfer of jet engine technology – as Prime Minister Narendra Modi met U.S. President Joseph Biden as part of his first state visit to the United States.

The two leaders, who hailed the strengthening of the strategic partnership with the visit, met at the White House and made the point that both countries share democratic values, while addressing a gathering of officials and thousands of members of the Indian-American diaspora.

Mr. Modi and Mr. Biden marked what they have described as a new stage in the India-U.S. relationship as the Prime Minister was accorded a ceremonial welcome at the White House South Lawn by the President and First Lady Jill Biden on a drizzly Thursday morning.

Both leaders addressed a press conference after their bilateral meeting. Mr. Modi answered two questions – one on democracy in India from the American press corps and another on climate change from the Indian media.

Mr. Modi agreed with Mr. Biden that democracy was in the DNA of India and the U.S. "Democracy runs in our veins," Mr. Modi said, maintaining that there was no discrimination in India.

The Prime Minister and the President discussed the war in Ukraine during their bilateral meeting.

"We are completely ready to contribute in any way we can to restore peace," Mr. Modi told the press conference.

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GE AEROSPACE-HAL DEAL
» PAGE 13

Barack Obama sounds alarm on minority rights

NEW DELHI
India may "pull apart" if rights of the religious and ethnic minorities are not upheld, former U.S. President Barack Obama said, adding that the Biden administration should discuss these issues "honestly" with PM Modi. » PAGE 13

U.S. intends to open consulate in Bengaluru, Ahmedabad: White House

Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON

The U.S. will open two new consulates in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad while India will establish a mission in Seattle to boost people-to-people relationships, a senior White House official said on Thursday.

The official said the U.S. issued a record 125,000 visas to Indian students last year.

Indian students are set to become the largest foreign student community in the United States, with a 20% increase last year alone, the senior administration official said.

The U.S. Department of State is going to launch a pilot to adjudicate domestic renewals of certain petition-based temporary work visas later this year, including for Indian nationals, with the intent to implement this for an expanded pool, the official said.

Governor holds poll panel accountable for Bengal violence

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose on Thursday blamed the State Election Commission (SEC) for the violence during the ongoing panchayat poll process in the State, and held it accountable for every drop of human blood that is shed in the field.

"People are disappointed by the apparent inaction from the Election Commission. People are in a state of fear. There is violence, but of course I will not say there is violence all over. But there is violence, and the fact that there is violence cannot be denied," the Governor said.

On Thursday, the SEC requisitioned 800 companies of Central forces to be deployed in the State during the panchayat polls, in accordance with the Calcutta High Court's directions, though the BJP said this was also insufficient.

C.V. Ananda Bose

Mr. Bose said that he had appointed Rajiva Sinha as the State Election Commissioner, trusting that he would conduct the election process in a free and fair manner. He added that during the election, the Commissioner has power over the police and magistrates.

"The Election Commission should not only be impartial but should also be perceived to be impartial. Caesar's wife must be above suspicion," Mr. Bose added.

CONTINUED ON
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NEARBY

Dengue: TPR higher than State average in 15 dists.

BENGALURU
Although the number of dengue cases in Karnataka in the first six months this year is almost the same as that reported in 2022, at least 15 districts, including BBMP area, have a test positivity rate (TPR) that is higher than the State average of 5.8%. » PAGE 5

KMF wants to hike price of Nandini milk

BENGALURU
Less than a year after the price of Nandini milk was hiked by ₹2 per litre, the KMF is preparing to seek a hike of ₹5 per litre. The BJP government had allowed a hike of ₹2 in November 2022. » PAGE 8

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

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A BG-BGE

Write off Bazball and England at your own peril

In the six Ashes series on home soil since the turn of the century, the Englishmen have emerged on top four times; the 2001 battle was lost while the 2019 match-up ended in a draw

THE ASHES

Sankar Narayanan E.H.

Lions at home: Vignettes from England's successful Ashes campaigns since the turn of the millennium. FILE PHOTOS

Bazball took a blow at Edgbaston as England's 2023 Ashes campaign started on the wrong foot. Pat Cummins' Australia managed to pull off a dramatic chase to take a 1-0 lead in the series.

The Ashes urn hasn't had England's name on it since 2015, and getting off to a winning start would have helped set the tempo for the remainder of the series. But it wasn't to be.

With a lot to ponder, Ben Stokes and the England think-tank have four more Tests to plot and plan a comeback. If history is any indication, what awaits is a series that will keep everyone on edge.

What can Brendon McCullum's England do to turn around its fortunes? And what has transpired in the previous opening bouts between the countries on English soil since 2001?

After the turn of the millennium, the two sides have locked horns on English shores in six series.

The first Test of the 2001 battle saw the Aussies thrash the home side by an innings and 118 runs.

England's misery piled up as captain Nasser Hussain hurt his finger and had to retire during the second innings of the Test. The injury also led to him missing out on the next two games at Lord's and Trent Bridge. There wasn't much of a fightback from the host as it lost the first three Tests by big margins. Though it won the fourth at Leeds, England went on to lose the series 1-4.

In 2005, the Ashes returned to its glory days. England went down by 239 runs at Lord's in the opener with Australian speedster Glenn McGrath doing the bulk of the damage with a nine-wicket match haul.

The stage was set for another Aussie victory as England hadn't won the Ashes since its famous win down under in the 1986-87 campaign.

A freak injury during training ruled McGrath out of the second Test at Birmingham. The absence of its game-changer threw Ricky Ponting's men off track.

Australia's decision to field first backfired as England racked up 407 in just under 80 overs in the first innings and went on to win the Test in a humdinger.

With the visitors staring down the barrel, Brett Lee and Michael Kasprowicz added 59 for the final wicket. With just three needed for victory, Steve Harmison dismissed Kasprowicz and triggered celebrations in the England camp. The sight of Andrew Flintoff bending over to console a distraught Lee is still etched in memory.

The win in the second Test spurred the Englishmen on and it took a Ricky Ponting special to deny them a victory at Old Trafford in the third Test.

However, the host got it right at Nottingham in the fourth before Kevin Pietersen's remarkable effort saved the fifth Test for England at The Oval. The urn moved to England, finally.

Moving ahead to 2009, the first match at Cardiff saw England pull off a great escape in the fourth innings. The last-wicket pair of Monty Panesar and James Anderson weathered the Aussie attack for over 11 overs to keep the series at 0-0 going into the second Test. Flintoff, who announced that he would retire from Tests at the end of the Ashes series, won the second Test for England with an inspired five-wicket haul as a spirited Australia pursued a massive target of 522.

England had won an Ashes Test at Lord's – the Home of Cricket – for the first time since 1934, and it was just the motivation the players needed. It prevailed in the final Test at The Oval to clinch the series 2-1 and regained the Ashes after a whitewash in Australia in the 2006-07 series.

England was a completely different side in the longest format coming into the 2013 Ashes. It was full of beans after a sensational series success in India earlier that year and the away win in Australia in 2010/11. The first match at Trent Bridge was an edge-of-the-seat thriller as both teams found ways to lose their advantage.

It was Anderson's 10-wicket haul that proved the difference as the players walked away with a 14-run victory. This was England's first opening Ashes Test victory since 1997 and it didn't look back as it motored to a 3-0 series victory.

The 2015 joust saw all the matches dominated by one side or the other throughout. The first Test at Cardiff was convincingly won by England, thanks to Joe Root's contribution (134 & 60; two for 28 in Australia's second innings).

The Aussies came back strongly at Lord's to win by a 405-run margin, with Steve Smith's maiden double hundred in Tests making it special.

It was England which stormed right back, winning the next two at Birmingham and Nottingham to seal the series.

Broad was on fire, running through the Australian line-up for just 60 with a dream spell of eight for 15 on the opening day of the fourth Test at Trent Bridge.

England batted just once in the match before winning by an innings and 78 runs. The series ended 3-2 in the hosts' favour after Australia repaid in kind with an innings and 46-run victory in the final Test at The Oval.

In the 2019 series, England suffered a 251-run loss at Edgbaston in the opening match. With the return of their talismanic players, David Warner and Steve Smith, who had served their bans following the ball-tampering scandal, Australia cruised home. However, the second Test ended in a draw before the Englishmen took the third.

The Headingley Test remains one of the most iconic. England, bowled out for 67 to concede a 112-run lead in the first innings, faced a target of fourth innings target of 359. Root (77) and Joe Denly (50) put England on course before it lost the plot and was a wicket away from losing the Test.

However, in an incredible finish, Stokes (135 not out) muscled the team home in the company of No. 11 Jack Leach (1 not out). England had needed 73 when Leach arrived at the wicket to join Stokes.

The left-arm spinner remained rock solid and the first and only run he took brought the scores level! Stokes duly completed the job, smashing a boundary off the next delivery.

This was not enough for England to regain the Ashes as both teams won a match each in the remaining games at Old Trafford and The Oval to make it 2-2. It was the first time since 1972 that a series between the two ended in a draw.

Cut to the present, all is not lost for Stokes' men. Bazball could still stage a comeback.

The Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium and its enduring love for hockey

Packed to the rafters: The support of spectators has always been a feature of matches at this venue in Chennai, like this scene from the 1996 Champions Trophy. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

K. Keerthivasan

The Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium situated in the centre of Chennai city holds a special place in the hearts of hockey fans, players and officials alike.

Earlier called the Corporation Stadium, which used to have hockey gravel ground, tennis courts, basketball and volleyball, it was rebuilt and renamed as the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium.

Constructed for the SAF Games in 1995, the complex now has hockey (artificial turf), tennis and volleyball.

The stadium attained international fame for hosting quite a few international hockey matches – like the SAF Games (1995), two editions of the Champions Trophy (1996 & 2005), an Asia Cup (2007), the India-Pakistan series (1999) and the India-Belgium series (2008). It has also been the venue for numerous domestic tournaments including the MCC-Murugappa All India Gold Cup and innumerable Chennai Hockey Association league matches.

More than the epic matches, strong rivalries among teams and players, it's the spectators' love for the National sport that has played a huge part in hockey's popularity in this part of the region.

"When we played for the senior Tamil Nadu team or the Railways team, be it practice or tournaments, there would always be a set of elderly people who used to come to watch us. They were hardcore fans who used to honour players if they played well and would not hesitate to criticise if they played badly. It was an ambience we enjoyed," says C.R. Kumar, coach of the Indian junior men's team which won the Asia Cup recently.

The best part, according to former national captain V. Baskaran – who was part of the committee entrusted in laying the artificial turf along with another Olympian Munir Sait among others for the SAF Games – has been the spectators who continue to turn out in huge numbers for the finals of both domestic and International tournaments.

"The crowd used to be full every time we hosted an international tournament, or a domestic tournament or a local league. The reason was that the stadium was close to areas that have a history of supporting hockey. The areas like Thousand Lights, Vepery, Triplicane, Royapettah and Mylapore all had hockey teams," says Baskaran.

Mohammed Riaz, former India skipper, recalls the time when there was a mild interruption during the SAF Games hockey final between India and Pakistan – where he was one of the players – because of overcrowding. "The fencing broke as there were too many people. The final was stopped for around 10 minutes."

Highlighting the knowledge of the fans, Riaz said they would reel out particular team line-up without the list in their hands. "The proximity of the stadium to top-class hotels, and railway station was one the reasons for many people including senior citizens turning up," he says. Riaz recalls how an extra gallery was put up to accommodate more people during the 1999 India-Pakistan series in Chennai and the 1996 Champions Trophy, an aspect that took the then Netherlands coach Roelant Oltmans by surprise.

It was as one such spectator that S. Karthi, one of the current forwards in the Indian men's team, watched players such as P.R. Sreejesh and S.V. Sunil in action. "I was a 13-year-old student of Sports Hostel of YMCA (Chennai). I was excited seeing them play for the first time at the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup. The crowd was excited and so was I," says the 21-year-old.

The turf has seen world class players of the calibre of Shahbaz Khan, Tahir Zaman (both Pakistan), Stephen Veen (Australia), Teun de Nooijer (Netherlands) and Dhanraj Pillay (India), among others. It is needless to say that the two Champions Trophy editions and the Asia Cup drew a near-full house. When India defeated South Korea to lift the Asia Cup, the cheers from a packed stadium showed Indians' love with hockey remained intact.

For young players from the districts used to playing on grass and gravel, the joy they felt on entering the stadium was unrivalled to say the least.

Vinod Rayer first came here in 1999 for the 'Catch them young' programme from Tiruchi and since then has played inter-Sports hostel tournaments, the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup and the CHA league matches.

"When I first played on the artificial turf, I felt really really good. Since then whenever I play here, I get goosebumps. There is a sense of happiness and fulfillment I get which I don't get from anywhere else," says the 37-year-old Tamil Nadu player.

Seventytwo-year-old V.J. Philips, a World Cup gold medallist, feels that Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu (HUTN) hasn't recognised the Olympic and World Cup medallists, but acknowledges that the advent of the artificial turf saw a spurt in youngsters taking up the sport. "There have been a lot of activities after 1994. Players have got better, but a lot of work remains to be done at the grassroots level," he says.

With the turf set to be relaid by mid-July for the Asian Champions Trophy – scheduled from August 3 to 12 – there is bound to be a revival of the sport in the city.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is planning to host a lot of international events in the future and is keen on improving the infrastructure in districts.

"I believe fans will throng the stadium for the Asian Champions Trophy. There will be people from other districts flocking here. Moreover, HUTN is doing a major rehaul in terms of seating arrangements for the spectators and dressing rooms, so we can expect good times for the sport," adds Kumar.

For HUTN and the Government of Tamil Nadu, the work doesn't start and end with the Asian Champions Trophy. Instead, they should utilise the magnificent facility of the renovated Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium to kickstart a renaissance.

Resumption of water supply from T.G. Halli reservoir to be delayed

BWSSB waiting for 1.5 tmcft of water from the Yettinahole project to be diverted to the reservoir to restart supply to city

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Water supply from Thippagondanahalli (T.G. Halli) reservoir to the city is likely to be delayed till the water from the Yettinahole project is diverted to the reservoir.

Bengaluru was expected to get an additional 110 MLD of water from the reservoir. Piped water supply to the city first started from T.G. Halli reservoir in 1933. The supply, however, was stopped in 2012 over concerns of water being non-potable due to pollution after the infrastructure to treat the water being built by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) became dysfunctional.

Long wait: Supply of water from Thippagondanahalli reservoir to Bengaluru was stopped in 2012 over concerns of it being non-potable. FILE PHOTO

The ongoing work to treat water has missed its deadline again, and it won't be completed for at least five more months. It is now unlikely that water from the reservoir will be supplied to the city even after the completion of the sewage treatment plant (STP) and water treatment plant (WTP).

"Even after a two-stage treatment at the reservoir, there may be concerns about the water quality. People may not be open to consuming it," said S. Jayaram, BWSSB Chairman.

River water diversion

The BWSSB is now waiting for 1.5 tmcft of water from the Yettinahole project to be diverted to the reservoir to restart the supply to the city.

"Water from the Nethravati, which will be diverted to the reservoir through the Yettinahole project, will dilute the treated water collected in the reservoir, which will address all concerns about its quality and potability," Mr. Jayaram said, adding that the Major Irrigation Department had said the water from Yettinahole project would reach the reservoir in a year.

The work on treatment infrastructure at the reservoir will be completed in five months. The BWSSB is building an STP of 250 MLD capacity, and a WTP of 2.25 tmcft annual capacity at the reservoir to treat the water.

"Work on the STP is completed, but the work on the WTP will be completed in five months. Completion of the project has been delayed due to technical glitches and mainly due to the pandemic, as the work had come to a halt," Mr. Jayaram said. However, it will be completed in time for water from the Yettinahole project to be diverted to the reservoir.

Shakti scheme: KSRTC bus crew to face action if they do not pick up women passengers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Directive follows complaints that bus crew are avoiding picking up women passengers after the implementation of the scheme

The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus crew will face strict action if they do not stop and pick up women passengers.

This comes after the corporation received complaints that the bus crew avoided women passengers after the implementation of the Shakti scheme under which women can travel for free in non-premium services of State road transport corporations.

Since the scheme was launched, many videos have been circulated on social media platforms of bus crew members refusing to pick up women passengers. In a circular issued on Thursday, the KSRTC said, "There are complaints that a few crew members do not stop the bus on seeing women since the ride for them is free under the Shakti scheme. However, each ticket given to women passengers will be reimbursed by the government and considered as revenue for the corporation. Hence, all bus crew should pick up women passengers. If not, strict action is will be taken against the crew."

A total of 5,40,07,124 women travelled for free in such buses till June 21 since the launch of the scheme by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on June 11.

According to the KSRTC, the ticket value of women passengers who availed themselves of the scheme till June 21 is ₹126.72 crore. .

Strict action

Meanwhile, in the circular, the KSRTC also directed its crew to behave respectfully with the women passengers since a few incidents of some conductors verbally abusing women passengers while issuing the tickets have come to the notice of the corporation. The KSRTC said strict action would be initiated against such crew members in future. The Shakti scheme is the first of the five pre-poll guarantees of the Congress that was implemented by the party government.

Habitual offender arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The R.T. Nagar police on Wednesday arrested a habitual offender for allegedly assaulting a security guard with a knife.

The accused, Thousif, 22, had assaulted four security guards earlier, the police said. The accused ventured into the lane where the guard, Albert, was at work near the former Chief Minister's residence at MLA Layout on June 18 and attacked him. Thousif had come to commit theft and confronted Albert after being questioned, the police said. Thousif then attacked Albert with a knife and fled. The police tracked him down with the help of CCTV footage.

Fairfax India acquires additional 3% stake in BIAL

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Fairfax India Holdings Corporation acquired an additional 3% equity in Bangalore International Airport Ltd. (BIAL) from Siemens Project Ventures GmbH, which is part of Siemens Financial Services, for $75 million (approximately ₹6.2 billion at current exchange rates). As a result of the closing of the first transaction, Fairfax India's aggregate share ownership in BIAL has increased to 57% (13.4% held by its wholly owned subsidiary and 43.6% held by its indirect subsidiary – Anchorage Infrastructure Investments Holdings Ltd.).

Fairfax India, through its wholly owned subsidiary, has agreed to acquire an additional 7% equity interest in BIAL from Siemens Financial Services for $175 million, subject to the satisfaction of certain performance conditions by BIAL and other closing conditions, which are expected to be tested subsequent to October 31, 2023.

BIAL is the operator of Kempegowda International Airport.

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
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INVITING e-TENDER on Rolling Basis

Contract Name	Tender cum Auction for Licensing of Commercial Space Located Adjacent To Saidapet Metro Station
Contract No	CMRL/BD-Saidapet-492/1/2023 - 01
Documents downloaded from	23/06/2023 to 24/07/2023 upto 17:00 hrs through e- tendering website **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**
Pre Bid Meeting Date	04/07/2023 on 11:30 hrs at MetroS - Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035
Due Date of Bid Submission	24/07/2023 upto 17:00 hours (IST)
Date of Bid Opening	25/07/2023 at 17:05 hours (IST)

For complete details, please visit e-procurement website: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** The tender will continue in rolling basis. Prospective bidders are required to periodically check the e-procurement website to know the currently availability. Any Corrigendum / Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on above mentioned website and will not be published in newspapers.

Tender inviting Authority:
Chief General Manager (P&BD), Chennai Metro Rail Limited,
MetroS - Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035.
www.chennaimetrorail.org. E-mail: **krishnan.rm@cmrl.in**

Chief General Manager (P&BD)

DIPR/3191/Tender/2023

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்".

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THINK SMARTER QUIZ

Carnatic legend M.S. Subbulakshmi seen performing at the 137th Theyagaraja Aradhana in Thiruvaiyaru, Tamil Nadu, in 1984 along with other distinguished musicians. **Expand the initials M and S in her name?**

Visit **bit.ly/FrontLineQuiz** to read the terms and conditions.

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No:BBMP/Comm/PSR(G)/570/2023-24 **FORM III** **Date: 16.06.2023**

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section 14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961 the following Area mentioned in the schedule below is required by The **Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike** for **Formation of Road from Gear School Road to Peripheral Ring Road Via Gunjur Palya, Varthuru** for Implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the width of 45.00 Mtrs.

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and landowners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **Gunjuru**

Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M		Boundaries of the Land / Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M (in Rs.)	Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for Which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout / developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.M	Type of Construction & No.of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy No: 158/10, 158/3 & 145/6 BBMP Khata Sl. No: 7702, Municipal No: 310	Vacant Land		Converted A Khatha Land			43.95 Sqm		Sy .No.158/13	Remaining Portion of Sy .No.158/10	Sy .No.158/11	Sy .No.158/4	None	None	None	Vacant	35,000/- Per Sqm	M/s. Akarsha Realty Pvt. Ltd., #2/4, Langford Garden, Richmond Town, Bengaluru - 560 025

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the divisional / Sub divisional / branch offices	Special Land Acquisition Officer,1st Floor, Room No.107, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560 002.

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Commissioner,
Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002

No:BBMP/Comm/PSR(G)/573/2023-24 **FORM III** **Date: 20.06.2023**

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section 14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961 the following Area mentioned in the schedule below is required by The **Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike** for **Formation of Road from Gear School Road to Peripheral Ring Road Via Gunjur Palya, Varthuru** for Implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the width of 45.00 Mtrs.

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and landowners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **Gunjuru**

Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M		Boundaries of the Land / Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.M (in Rs.)	Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for Which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout / developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.M	Type of Construction & No.of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy. No: 119/4B, BBMP Khata No:7707, Municipal No: 301	Vacant Land		Converted A Khatha Land			2639.65 Sqm		Remaining Portion of Sy .No.119/4B	Sy .No.116/1 & 116/2	Sy .No.122/3	Sy .No.119/4A	None	None	None	Vacant	35,000/- Per Sqm	M/s. Akarsha Realty Pvt. Ltd., #2/4, Langford Garden, Richmond Town, Bengaluru - 560 025

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the divisional / Sub divisional / branch offices	Special Land Acquisition Officer,1st Floor, Room No.107, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560 002.

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Rethinking importance of cord blood in regenerative medicine

Cord blood banking is not a 'biological insurance' and its role in regenerative medicine is hypothetical. It is recommended only if there is a family member (siblings or biological parents only), currently suffering from diseases approved to be benefitted by allogenic stem cell transplantation

Zubeda Hamid

A few days before her baby girl was born on June 20, 2023, Upasana Kamineni, wife of actor Ram Charan, announced on Twitter that she had chosen to preserve her baby's cord blood. She's not the first celebrity to have done so. A while ago, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan said she too, had saved cord blood.

Umbilical cord blood is a rich source of stem cells that can potentially develop into different types of cells and be used, via a transplant, in the treatment of certain blood, immune and metabolic disorders. These are known as hematopoetic stem cell transplantations (HSCT) and require certain markers to match between the cord blood and the patient, to work.

While over the past decade or so the popularity of cord blood banking has increased among new parents, witnessed by the many banking facilities that have come up across the country, doctors' associations say private banking of cord blood is not a routine recommendation for pregnant women, its use in transplants is decreasing and the areas of regenerative medicine where it could potentially be used, are still, mostly, experimental.

In 2009, when Sumana* was pregnant with her second child, she decided to consider cord blood banking. "At that point there was a family history of several illnesses: cancer, heart disease and diabetes, and this was seen as a once-in-a-lifetime chance to preserve stem cells," says the 45-year-old Delhi-based professional. For other mothers, like Jaya Sara Varghese, a Bengaluru-based public relations professional, the motivation was primarily a desire to not regret her decision in the future. "When my daughter turns 18, she will take a call on whether to continue banking it or not," Ms. Varghese says.

LifeCell International, one of the country's big names in stem cell banking says it currently has a presence in over 200 cities. "In a year, we have signed up around 25,000 customers," says managing director, Mayur Abhaya. The problem of a struggle for a match, he said, has been solved through the company's community blood banking system.

'Community' or 'social' banks, are repositories of stored cord blood from multiple donors, accessible to those who register for these services with the stem cell banking companies. Gurugram-based Cryoviva Biotech says the firm offers private as well as social banking. The stored stem cells remain the property of the client for the first two years after which they are transferred to the social banking repository, said Sajesh Padman, manager of the company's southern operations

"To find a match you need a large pool of donors," says Mr. Abaya. "Since we have 80,000 cord blood units stored with us, we are able to provide a good match." Cryovia says it has over 40,000 units of cord blood stored. Cord blood banking, can cost patients thousands of rupees.

The Bohari family from Maharashtra is one that used this community banking option. Four-year-old Batul Bohari, a resident of Sangamner, was diagnosed in 2018 with aplastic anaemia, a rare condition in which the body stops producing enough new blood cells due to the failure of bone marrow development. Initially, Batul was treated with medications, but slowly her condition deteriorated. When Batul's mother became pregnant again, the family decided to store the baby's cord blood, opting for community banking. But even this did not help Batul when she needed it, as her baby sister's blood was only a 50% match.

"We were aghast. The doctor said two closely-matching cord blood units could be used, and we eventually managed to obtain a second unit from the community pool. The transplant took place in October 2020," Batul's father, Huzefa Bohari said.

But in general, what are the chances of stored cord blood being used? A FAQ on cord blood banking by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) says "the likelihood of the stored blood being used for HSCT is very small, probably as low as 0.005 to 0.04% in the first 20 years of life." Consensus has also emerged in recent years, that stored cord blood should not be used for treating one's own genetic condition in the future, because these stem cells could harbour the same genetic abnormality that caused the primary disease.

Of late, the use of cord blood in transplants has been on the decline, says Revathi Raj, paediactric hemato-oncologist at Apollo Hospitals, Chennai. "Up until about five years ago, stem cells from cord blood were used for transplantations in children who had inborn errors of immunity or metabolism: the transplanted stem cells could help cure these genetic conditions. Now, however, a newer method - haploidentincal transplants - is more common, where healthy cells from a half-matched donor such as a family member are used to replace the unhealthy ones in a patient." This method, she says, is faster and has a higher success rate. She however expressed the belief that emerging technologies to increase the number of cells in cord blood units and promote faster growth of new blood cells, may help the future use of cord blood.

The ICMR's 'Guidelines for Umbilical Cord Banking' 2023 too state that the trend is decreasing utilisation of cord blood for transplants in recent years. "Presently, the cord blood stored in private cord blood banks remains under-utilised," it adds.

None of the professional obstetric-gynaecological associations recommend cord blood banking as a matter of routine to pregnant women, says P. Rafeeka, senior consultant in Gynaecology and Obstetrics, KIMSHEALTH, Thiruvananthapuram. "We don't proactively recommend it, we only discuss it if patients ask us about it," says Jaishree Gajaraj, former president of The Obstetric & Gynaecological Society of Southern India. Chennai-based gynaecologist Priya Selvaraj concurs. Vidya Bhat, former president of Karnataka State Obstetrics and Gynaecology Association, said around 20% of her patients enquire about stem cell banking and some of them, with insurance cover for banking, opt for it.

Blood being extracted in the operation room. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

> Consensus has also emerged in recent years, that stored cord blood should not be used for treating one's own genetic condition in the future, because these stem cells could harbour the same genetic abnormality that caused the primary disease

The Indian Academy of Paediatrics, in a 2018 statement, said: "Private cord blood banking is not a 'biological insurance' and its role in regenerative medicine is still hypothetical. [It] is recommended only if there is an existing family member (siblings or biological parents only), who is currently suffering from diseases approved to be benefitted by allogenic stem cell transplantation."

For would-be parents considering cord-blood banking, awareness is important. "There is still a lack of awareness among stakeholders about the uses of cord blood banking. This needs to be countered through widespread information dissemination," says a senior ICMR official.

*Name changed to protect privacy.

(With inputs from R. Sujatha in Chennai, C. Maya in Tiruvananthapuram and Afshan Yasmeen in Bangalore)

The lowdown on 'substandard' cough syrups

Cough syrups should never be administered indiscriminately. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Preeti Zachariah

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has claimed that 300 children have died so far since August 2022, across three countries, due to substandard cough syrups made in India. Further, it issued an alert for seven syrups produced in India. India's Drugs Controller General has since made it mandatory to test cough syrups, by specified labs, before they are exported.

Shailaja Mane, head, Department of Paediatrics, DPU Private Super Speciality Hospital, Pune, says cough syrups can pose a risk in two ways.

"One is a problem with the content itself," she says, adding that the recent incidents all stemmed from the presence of high levels of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol which damage the kidneys. Secondly,

> The government has banned 14 fixed-drug combinations used to treat , cough, and fever

unscientific combinations, where certain chemical components interact with the other can also be harmful, she says. Earlier this month, the government banned 14 fixed-drug combinations used to treat common infections, cough, and fever, 'as they lack therapeutic relevance and may pose risks to human beings'.

The sale of over-the-counter cough syrups, in general, should be curtailed, says Dr. Mane, pointing out that it is too easy, in India, to get drugs without a prescription or by relying on an old one. She strongly recommends avoiding all forms of self-medication, especially if a child is very young. "If they feel drowsy, experience dizziness, blurred vision, nausea, or are not able to verbalise, consider these harmful," she says. Cough syrups containing codeine should not be given to any child as it is not just addictive but can be lethal, she adds.

More importantly, a cough is just a symptom, not a disease in itself. "You need to find the reason for the cough and treat that," says Himanshu Batra, senior consultant, Paediatrics, at Manipal Hospital, Delhi. He says it's best to consult a paediatrician, as a cough syrup for dry and phlegmatic coughs have different medication, and the idea is never to suppress one. "This can be particularly dangerous in young children as it causes mucous to build up," says Dr. Batra.

Unhealthy food and a sedentary life can be fatal. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Increase in liver disease 'caused by poor diet and lifestyle'

The Hindu Bureau

If alcohol consumption could impact the health of your liver, a sedentary lifestyle, a high calorie diet and excess fats associated with obesity and high blood sugar can be equally detrimental. That Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD), and its advanced form, Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH) cases are steadily rising is worrying doctors.

"We are used to hearing about alcohol-related liver damage; however, NAFLD is now steadily becoming a leading contributor to cirrhosis and liver transplantation. It is critical to educate the public on the fact that while excess alcohol causes damage to our liver, a sedentary lifestyle, overeating and a high calorie diet such as processed sugar is almost as bad as the damage from alcohol, making it an equal contributor to liver diseases today," said N Murugan, Hepatologist and Transplant Physician, Apollo Hospitals.Globally, prevalence of NAFLD is around 25% (22%-28%), prevalence in Asia is around 27% (22% - 32%), he said: "However, we have seen the trend to be much higher in India with prevalence among adults at 39% and among children at 35%."

"We have observed that among three lakh persons who underwent health checks at Apollo Hospitals in the last year - that includes both urban and rural population - 23% were found to have a fatty liver condition. Of these, three-quarters of the people did not have a history of consuming any alcohol," he wrote in an email.

NASH is an advanced form of NAFLD, R. Surendran, former director, Department of Surgical Gastroenterology, Government Stanley Medical College Hospital, pointed out. "Throughout the world, it is increasing at an alarming rate. About 6.5% of the population had NAFLD irrespective of age and 20% of this has already gone into NASH. The prevalence of NASH will lead on to cirrhosis of liver and later, liver cancer," he said.He added that the difference between NAFLD and NASH was the presence of inflammation in the liver in NASH.

K. Premkumar, associate professor, Hepatology and director in-charge, Institute of Hepatobiliary Sciences, Madras Medical College and Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, said that NASH was a wide spectrum of disease severity, including fibrosis, cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma. "The global prevalence of NASH is estimated between two and six per cent in the general population," he said.

Awareness of NAFLD remains low among patients and healthcare providers, he said. "It is an asymptomatic and slowly progressive disease, in adults and in children, but fibrosis rapidly progresses in 20% of cases. It is diagnosed only when individuals undergo health screening or is incidentally detected.," he added. Currently, NAFLD is increasing in India and is becoming an mportant cause for end stage liver disease for which transplantation is the curative option.

"A major contributor for NAFLD in India are metabolic risk factors related to an inactive lifestyle and a high consumption of calories especially. In my personal experience as a liver transplant physician, the cases of NAFLD leading to transplants are almost at par with alcoholic liver disease-led transplants," Dr. Murugan said.

Dr. Surendran said that it was alarming that 50% of diabetics, 75% of obese persons and 100% of obese and diabetics have NAFLD. Even non-obese can develop NAFLD and NASH because of lack of activity and junk food. Childhood obesity is increasing at an alarming rate due to consumption of junk food, he said.

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

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A BG-BGE

Bengaluru embraces diversity, celebrates pride month with inclusive spirit

Bengaluru opens its doors to the queer community, embracing inclusivity and providing platforms for expression and celebration through dance-drama

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

In a colourful celebration of love, acceptance, and equality, Pride Month takes centre stage every June, with the vibrant energy of the LGBTQIA+ community and its allies worldwide. This annual commemoration is a powerful reminder of the progress made towards fostering a more inclusive society.

Among the cities passionately championing this movement is Bengaluru. With its vibrant and diverse cultural fabric, Bengaluru hosts an array of events and initiatives that honor diversity, promote awareness, and foster a sense of unity.

Sharanyaprakash with the performers of Nava.

Karthik Hebbar

Adavi-Parai musicians are set to premiere their dance-drama "Taala Tamte".

A musical celebration
As this year's Pride Month is almost coming to an end, numerous events showcasing inclusivity are taking place throughout the city, hosted by art and cultural organisations. Beru Art and Cultural Foundation in collaboration with Aravani Art Project and Adavi-Parai musicians is set to premiere its new dance-drama "Taala Tamte." The dance-drama will premiere at Ravindra Kalakshetra's Bayalu Ranga Mandira on Saturday.

Instrument as symbol
The dance-drama is based on an instrument called the Tamate (also known as parai), one of the oldest instruments in India. Despite its rich history, this instrument has long been looked down upon and given a lower place in the hierarchical structure of music and art. The Tamate reiterates its own histories as well as those people it's so closely connected to - specifically the musicians and the transgender community. Through the dance-drama the artists push boundaries between stage and space, exploring the hierarchies of performance and people.

Talking to The Hindu, Dayanand Akhilesh, the Director of the dance drama, said everything breaks barriers of hierarchy in the play. "We focus on an instrument called the parai or the tamate, which is looked down upon in the music hierarchy. We try to question and break all barriers attached with the instrument."

Mr Akhilesh says though the rehearsal process was just for a month, it took him close to six to seven years to understand, learn and research on the instrument and learn how it is used by the parai musicians and the transgender community, "I have danced at funerals and played the instrument to understand how it feels, I have collected coins at funerals just to experience how a parai musician feels. It took time."

"We have established a place called the Beru Art and Cultural Foundation, which is very open and welcome to artists from the LGBTQIA+ community, through which we have made this dance-drama now."

The play stars many artistes from the queer community, creating a platform for them to speak their minds, explore their talent and much more.

Cultural spaces
During Pride Month, cultural spaces in Bengaluru open their doors to the queer community, embracing inclusivity and providing platforms for expression and celebration. However, despite these positive strides, complete openness and acceptance within cultural spaces for the queer community still face challenges.

Artists who work with the LGBTQIA+ community or create work emphasizing on the queer community, feel that though progress has been made, there is still work to be done to ensure that cultural spaces truly become safe, welcoming, and fully inclusive environments for all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Speaking to The Hindu, Karthik Hebbar, a musician, director, writer, actor and activist, known for directing and producing plays on the queer community like "Patanga Prabhava", "Amma Mattu Suhail", says cultural spaces are indifferent to queer voices.

"Nobody takes the initiative to place the queer voices out there. It is the queer communities who themselves have to struggle to place ourselves in a scene visibly."

"Many corporates use Pride Month to put out queer voices and forget us for the rest of the year. However, there is some token of effort. It is even worse at celebrated cultural spaces, like music, dance and theatre spaces. We ourselves book the spaces and go an extra mile to push our voices or voices of any minority. Cultural spaces take no initiative and honour the struggle to uplift our voices," he said.

Mr Karthik added that he has been questioned many a times why he only makes queer plays. "I have been asked why I make only queer plays, and why all my stories are queer, and many more such questions, instead of uplifting our voices," he said.

Sharanya Ramprakash, a renowned theatre maker, who has worked closely with the queer community says, "There is a sense of developing queer movement in Bengaluru, but cultural spaces are still not open to mainstreaming the queer voices."

"There are several queer events happening in the city, like Maya Bazaar, that happens once every six months to a year, and it is hugely popular. There are pockets, developing a queer movement, but as far as mainstreaming is concerned, with my experience working in the Kannada and English theatre, I would say there are very few queer people and queer stories out there."

More than being 'nice'
Sharanya says, "Everyone says its lovely, let us be open and work with queerness, it is a nice thought to have, but it is not just about being nice. It is about deeply examining and relooking at the patriarchal roots of your own practice and making fundamental changes. When I made the play 'Nava', I had to completely re-look at what making work meant for the transwomen performing in the play. These changes will take a long time, but the good news is that it has started."

Equestrian tournament in Bengaluru attracts youngsters

The Equestrian Premier League this year will see participation from 25 clubs across the country

Shilpa Elizabeth
Bengaluru

Fourteen-year-old Jaiveer Varma moved from Hyderabad to Bengaluru three years back to join the Embassy International Riding School in Devanahalli where he is training to be an equestrian now. "My goal is the 2026 Youth Olympics and 2030 Asian Games," says the young athlete whose words exude confidence and clarity.

Varma is one among the 25-odd athletes being trained at the school run by veteran equestrian Silva Storai. He is also ready to take part in the 13th edition of the Equestrian Premier League (EPL) held by the school beginning on June 23. With his three horses, he will be competing in the 1 m, 1.05 m, 1.10 m, and 1.20 m categories. The competition will be held for three days every month until November. EPL which had its humble beginnings in 2010 with just two clubs participating then has by now grown in size. This year the competition will see participation from 25 clubs from various parts of India including Bengaluru, Puducherry, Kanyakumari, Chennai, Hyderabad and Mumbai. Silva Storai, the 64-year-old Italian-born Indian who became the first female jockey in India in 1992, runs the riding school. She seems to be on cloud nine as she talks about how the sport and the tournament have been gaining popularity.

The beginning
It all started in 1996 when Ms Storai met Jitu Virwani, chairman of the Embassy Group, who was planning to start a riding school. managed to bring in highly qualified instructors from the British Royal Society who helped her set up a base for the equestrian sport in the city.

"It's not just sitting on a horse and going around like a cowboy, which is what kids love the most," Ms Storai laughs. "We all love to jump on a horse and have a good time. But that's hobby, and then there's the sport," she says.

While cricket continues to be India's favourite sport, according to Ms Storai, the equestrian sport has seen incredible growth in the country in the last 10-15 years. In 2018 Arjuna Award winner Fouaad Mirza from Bengaluru won two silver medals at the Equestrian Jumping Final at the Asian Games in Jakarta. In 2021 he also became the third Indian to qualify for equestrian at the Olympics after Indrajit Lamba in 1996 and Imtiaz Anees in 2000.

"When we started EPL, it was all very casual. There was no proper dress code, just two clubs were participating. So, the first goal was to raise the standard," Ms. Storai remembers.

Jaiveer Varma, dreams of bagging medals in Asian games and in Olympics.

As years passed more clubs started coming in, and today, she notes, Bengaluru is one of the places with the highest number of riding clubs.

Changing times
Interestingly, back in Italy, Ms Storai or her family had nothing to do with horses. Her connection with the beast started in Kodaikanal where she lived with her husband for 15 years. Households with horses are common in the sleepy hill station in Tamil Nadu where they are used for transportation in the hilly terrain. Ms. Storai had two horses on which she would go riding in the woods.

"It was all fun then. But it became more serious when I came to Chennai. There I became a jockey and later I moved to Bengaluru. Things took a very professional turn after that," she remembers.

As the only female jockey in India, it was not a walk in the park for Ms. Storai. But from those days, she feels, things have changed drastically. While equestrian continues to be an expensive sport with a high entry barrier for a large part of the Indian population, Storai notes that parents, especially those in the upper middle class families, are today willing to spend money to train them.

"I see parents relocating cities and coming to Bengaluru for their kids' training purposes," she says citing the example of Varma. While Varma himself moved to the city in 2019 and has been training at Embassy by staying at their residential facility, his parents moved to Bengaluru two months back.

Challenges galore
The success of equestrians like Fouaad Mirza and Ashish Limaye who were also associated with the school has further encouraged people and shown them doors to new possibilities.

However, challenges are still aplenty for the sport in India. Many athletes move abroad for improved training facilities, better opportunities and exposure. The Equestrian Federation of India itself has been fraught with allegations of mismanagement in the selection of athletes for international competitions.

Another challenge has been the lack of availability of the right kind of horses in the country. The equestrian sport requires warm-blooded horses bred for impulsion as they have to perform very complicated movements in dressage.

One often has to travel abroad to find the right horse and then bring them back, which makes it a tedious process. To address this challenge, the Embassy School started a breeding programme in 2015. According to Ms Storai, a few more clubs have now started similar programmes. .

Upcoming talent
When it comes to people, there's no dearth of talent in a country of 140 crore people, she notes. However, while Ms. Storai vouches for great potential among the young athletes she trains, she is also realistic.

"The potential is there. But like everything in life, you got to see where it goes. The youngsters need to remain steady and motivated, and they also need their parents to be on their side... The future is looking very bright."

Italian-born Indian Silva Storai became the first female jockey in India in 1992.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 23, 1973

Land Reforms May be Enforced from Aug. 15

BANGALORE, June 22: The coming Independence day, August 15, or Gandhi Jayanti day, October 2, is the "appointed" day on which the Mysore Government wishes to bring into force the Land Reform (Amendment) Bill, 1973.

The determination of the case depends on the speed with which the Bill is processed by the Central Government for purposes of the President's assent and the framing of the rules under the Act. The Bill, which has now been passed by the two houses of the State Legislature, has been sent to Delhi for the President's assent.

The Bill proposes a celling range of 10-45 acres, 10 acres in the case of first-class land capable of yielding two paddy crops and intermediate limits for irrigated land, and a maximum of 84 acres of dry land for a family.

Measures Taken to Rush Rice to S. Kanara

BANGALORE, June 22: The Mysore Government has taken urgent measures to ease the rice position in South Kanara.

A Government spokesman said here to-day that in addition to the permission given to the cooperative societies in South Kanara to purchase 12,500 bottled rice in Shimoga at the price fixed by the Deputy Commissioner and selling them at the rates stipulated by the Deputy Commissioner of South Kanara, the Government was permitting selected merchants to make the purchase.

The Power of an MLA

BANGALORE, June 22: The State Government has received a report of Congress MLA "inspecting" a taluk office and recording his findings in the office registers. The Government has taken serious note of this and the Deputy Commissioner of the area has already started an enquiry into the incident. The MLA, according to reports reaching the Government, has also been identified.

Notices issued to BBMP, KRIDL in ₹118-crore bill scam

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Division Regional Commissioner (RC) Amlan Aditya Bisawas, who is probing a ₹118-crore bill scam in R.R. Nagar zone, has issued notices to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Limited (KRIDL) seeking multiple details.

The Urban Development Department (UDD) had suspended eight officials from the two agencies for their alleged involvement in the scam on the recommendations of the Lokayukta, which conducted a preliminary probe. The Lokayukta had filed a report after probing the alleged scam in January 2022. The Lokayukta initiated a probe following a complaint by D.K. Suresh, Bengaluru Rural, MP, in September 2020.

The fake bills were pertaining to work carried out in the last two years by the KRIDL in the R.R. Nagar zone.

The BBMP had awarded works to contractors through the KRIDL. The UDD also tasked Mr. Biswas to probe all the works carried out by the KRIDL for the BBMP.

Sources in the RC's office said the notices were issued seeking details of the works allocated to the KRIDL, and the manner in which they were executed. While the Lokayukta had found many loopholes in 114 works, the probing officer will dwell deep. The RC will look into each work case by case, sending men to spots where they are said to be executed.

The RC will also probe the involvement of officers to see at what level, how, and why they intervened to carry out the alleged scam. As the Lokayukta has found the involvement of top officials, the RC will now ascertain whether the nature of the offence is criminal or civil. Sources said that as swindling of the exchequer money is involved in the case, the officials may be charged with criminal offences. The RC has specifically asked for order copies that enabled handing over of works to the KRIDL to pin loopholes at every level in the civic body.

Payments on hold

In the light of the probe ordered by the government, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has instructed his subordinates to halt all payments for the works implemented by the KRIDL.

KASSIA delegation to meet CM today to press for power tariff hike rollback

The bandh call given by KCCI received good response in North Karnataka, but not in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A delegation from the Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA), which represents over 6 lakh medium, small, and micro enterprises in Karnataka, will meet Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday to appeal to him for a rollback of the power tariff hike.

Meanwhile, in response to the call for a Statewide trade and industry bandh, seeking reconsideration of the power tariff hike, traders and industrialists across North Karnataka and parts of South Karnataka closed their businesses and operations for a day and took out protest marches on Thursday. However, the bandh call had no impact in Bengaluru.

No activity: The central business district in Hubballi was deserted during the trade and industry bandh on Thursday. KIRAN BAKALE

The call was given by Hubballi-based Karnatak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI).

In Bengaluru, KASSIA president K.N. Narasimhamurthy told *The Hindu* that none of the trade body members took part in the protest as they were "patiently waiting for the State government to take a decision on the power tariff revision".

"A KASSIA delegation will meet the Chief Minister on Friday at Krishna to press our demand for the rollback of the hike in power tariff," he added.

Intervention sought

Meanwhile, representatives of the Confederation of Indian MSME in ESDM & IT, a group of like-minded entrepreneurs, met the former Chief Minister and JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy, told him that the recent hike in the power tariff would threaten the very survival of the MSMEs and requested his intervention in asking the government to rollback the hike. At the surface level, the high power tariff would increase the raw material prices and input costs and upset all calculations of a micro entrepreneur, said Jairaj Srinivas, director general, Confederation of Indian MSME in ESDM & IT.

REVA launches 'Adaptive Learning'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

REVA University has introduced Adaptive Learning - 2023, which caters to the learning needs of each individual student.

At the launch, P. Shyama Raju, Chancellor of REVA University, said, "Through Adaptive Learning, REVA University gives the latest offerings that would assist students in learning efficiently and effectively besides giving them exposure to multiple courses and innovation avenues at REVA from the academic year 2023. During the course of their journey at REVA, they will get a chance to grasp facts and knowledge from diverse disciplines."

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (June 23, Friday), the following explainer is available:

- Why are Western lawmakers opposing Sultan Ahmed al-Jaber's appointment? **bit.ly/cop28presidentoil**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

South East Central Railway
No. COM/BSP/E-AUCTION/MIX/Jun-23/2
E-Acution has been invite for the earning conract. The catalog has already been published on the IREPS website (https://ireps.gov.in). The details are as follows:-

Catalogue No.	Category	Auction Start	Lot No.	Lot Description	Contract Period
BSP-VW-UA1	(Adveritising)	30.06.23 15.00	ADVT-BSP-ABKP-OSD-142-23-1 ADVT-BSP-USL OSD-145-23-1	Advertisement Rights through, Video Wall (LED Screen) at Railway Station	5 years

CPR/10/120
Asstt. Comml. Manager
S.E.C.Railway, Bilaspur
South East Central Railway @secrail

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client intends to develop the properties described in the Schedule (Schedule Properties) hereunder from the owner/s. Any person/s, firms, societies, institutions (corporate or otherwise) claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to, the Schedule Properties and/or any part thereof, by way of sale, agreement, exchange, gift, grant, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement/ settlement, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, development rights, order / decree / judgment of any Court/Statutory Authority, agreement, understanding or otherwise howsoever, to the Schedule Properties is required to intimate the same in writing together with true copies of all documentary proof in support thereof, to the undersigned, at the address given below, within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our client shall proceed ahead to purchase the Schedule Properties and no further claims in respect of the Schedule Properties would be considered any time thereafter.
SCHEDULE PROPERTIES
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the below mentioned agricultural land all situated at Kempatimmanahalli Village, Karahalli Post, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded by :

Sl. Nos	Sy. Nos	Land Area	Boundaries E-East by; W-West by; N-North by; S-South by
1	46/1	00 Acre 13 Gunta	E : Property belonging to Subbarayappa W : Kaluve and Property belonging to Purushothama. P N : Hotel S : Property belonging to Mrs. R.Manjula and Ramakrishnamma
2	46/2	00 Acre 28 Gunta	E : Property belonging to Gambiganahalli Krishnappa W : Property belonging to Mr. Purushothama (Sy.No.47/3) N : Property belonging to Ramakrishnamma (Sy.No.46/4) S : Property belonging to Pappaiah and Channarayappa.
3	46/4	00 Acre 37 Gunta	E : Property belongs to Basappa and Muniyappa (Sy. No. 43/5) W : Property belongs to Purushothama (Sy. No. 47/1 & 47/2) N : Property belongs to Purushothama (Sy. No. 41) S : Land bearing Sy. No. 46/2

Bengaluru, Date: 23.06.2023
FoxMandal Solicitors & Advocates
Mr. S T Prashantha Kumar, Senior Partner,
Fox Mandal & Associates, Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road, Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India. Phone: +91 80 2559 5911

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(YERAMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582
No: KPCL/2023-24/PM/WORK_INDENT39 Date: 14.06.2023
SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(TWO COVER SYSTEM)(Through e-Procurement portal only)
Tenders through e-procurement portal mode are invited for **"Refurbishment and strengthening of Induced Draft Cooling Tower Hot Raiser Pipes by application of glass flake epoxy formulation at YTPS"** from the contractors/agencies that are reputed individuals/company and having past experience at YTPS, Raichur District, Karnataka State. Tender amount: **Rs. 97,51,992/-.** Last date for submission of tender: **26.06.2023 at 16.00 hrs.** Interested bidders may submit the bids through e-Tendering website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only. Further details can be obtained from the office of the **Executive Engineer(M-1), YTPS, Yeramarus-584134. Mobile-09480682893.**

Government of Maharashtra
Public Works Department P.W. Division, Panvel
Telephone No. 022-27452778
E- Tender Notice No. 46 (Open ONLINE)Year-2023-24
E-mail address:- panvel.ee@mahapwd.gov.in
Fax Number :-022-27467440
Executive Engineer P.W. Division Panvel invite B-1 Tender From Registered Contractor with Govt. of Maharashtra Detail Tender Notice Available On www.mahapwd.gov.in and www.mahatenders.gov.in.
Note :-Total 10 Work include in Tender notice.
Online Tender Download & Bid Preparation Period Date 23.06.2023 At 10.00 AM To Date 30.06.2023 18.00 PM.
Online Tender Bid Preparation Last Date 30.06.2023 at 18.00 PM.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
P. W.Division, Panvel
DGIPR/2023-2024/1641

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is informed to the general public that, my client **Sri. B.M. MADHUSUDHAN,** residing at 20, 17th Cross, 13th Main, J.P. Nagar, 5th Phase, Bangalore -560078 has lost the **original Sale Deed registered in the name of Sri. T. Papanna vide Document No.17416/2006-07,** Book 1, CD No.KEND316, dt:11-08-2006 registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Kengeri, Bangalore whilein transit. In this connection, my client has lodged a police complaint to the Karnataka State Police (U/s 155 CrPC) Lost Article **Report Serial No.604017,** Police Unit: Bangalore City, Lost ReportNo.0604017/2023, dt: 16-06-2023. Hence, if anybody finds the said Document please inform/return.to the below address within **15 days.**
Srinivasa S.A., Advocate
No.79/B, 7th Main, 50 feet Road,
BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050.
Mob: 9008003449
E-mail : srinilegals@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 22-06-2023

LOST
I, **MANJULA DEVI GANGAPPA,** W/o. **B.R.Prasannakumar**, residing at No.288, 16th Cross, R.T Nagar 2nd Block, R.T Nagar Post, Bengaluru -560 032, do hereby inform the general public that I have lost the Original documents, Sale Deed, Will, Khatha Extract, Khatha Certificate & following Deed's. I have lodged the complaint reg. the lost of documents in **e-Lost R-No.0608640/2023,** dated: 19.06.2023. WILL: Doc No.102/56-57, dt:30.01.1956, Vol No.2413, P No. 53-55, Book-3, sub-reg. office GNR, BLR. S/D: Mr. Y.Marigopal, Mr. Munimallappa between Mr. Siddappa, Doc No.5267/73-74, dt: 02.04.1974, Vol No.2473, P No. 8-11, Book-1, sub-reg. office BLR, S/D: Mr. M.Sanaulla, Doc No.2798/74-75, dt: 28.09.1974, Vol No.2504, P No. 52-54, Book1, sub-reg. office GAND, BLR. S/D: Mr. C.Kalappa & Mr. K.Babu, Doc No.3340/91-92, dt: 12.03.1992, Vol No.3822, P No. 28-32, Book-1, sub-reg. office GAND, BLR. P/D: Doc No.2315, dt:04.01.1985, S/D: Mr. Siddappa & Mr. Sannakallappa, Doc No.702/73-74, dt: 15.05.1973, Vol No.2413, P No. 1-6, Book-1, sub -reg. GAND, BLR. S/D Doc No.5019, dt: 26.02.2018, Book-1, sub-reg. GAND, BLR. The Khatha Extract Certificate of Mr. K.Babu & Thippeswamy.K.P.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client states that the following original documents in respect of Schedule Property has been misplaced: Regd., Gift Deed dated 10.05.2006 Document No. BLN-1-08653-2006-07, Book-1, CD No BLND265, and Reg., Sale Deed dated 29.10.2001 Document No. 10966/2001-02, Book-1, CD No. 50, dated 30.10.2001 in the office of the Sub-Registrar Bengaluru North Taluk in respect of Property bearing Site No.75, in Sy No 25/1 have been misplaced/lost and is not traceable immediately. We hereby call upon the public if anyone found the above said document, kindly hand over to undersigned immediately and they may be suitable awarded, and also we further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document in respect of the Schedule Property, same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal Act. Therefore, we are call upon the general public not to deal with the Schedule Property on the basis of above said original documents which is standing in the name of Sri. Jagadeesh B S/o Sri. K Boraiah Certified copy of the Regd., Gift Deed bearing No.BLN-1-08653-2006-07 Dated 10.05.2006 and Sale Deed bearing No. 10966/2001-02 dated 29.10.2001 favouring Sri. Jagadeesh B S/o Sri. K Boraiah will be obtained from the Sub Registrar office and same shall be treated as original title deed of Sri. Jagadeesh B, S/o Sri. K Boraiah with respect to the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the Site bearing No. 75, situated in the Sy No. 25/1 of Srigandhadakaval, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru and layout formed by the Karnataka State Government 'D' group employees central association measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet with, in total measuring 1200 Sq. ft and Two Floor building constructed with parking areas thereon and bounded on **East by:** Site No.76; **West by:** Site No.74; **North by:** 60 feet Road; **South by:** Site No.76;
A. P. Law Associates
No. 1642/28, 3rd Main 1st Cross
Ramamohanpuram Near Srirampura
Metro Station, (Behind Devaiah Park)
Bengaluru-560021.
Mob :- 9844378777 / 6362583397

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client states that the following original documents in respect of Schedule Property has been misplaced: Regd., Sale Deed dated 04.03.1946, Document No.2814/1945-96, Volume No.779, Pages 208-211, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Bengaluru City in respect of House bearing Old Site No.9, BBMP Municipal No.23, (Old No.1608), have been misplaced/lost and is not traceable immediately. We hereby call upon the public if anyone found the above said document, kindly hand over to undersigned immediately and they may be suitable awarded, and also we further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document in respect of the Schedule Property, same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal Act. Therefore, we are call upon the general public not to deal with the Schedule Property on the basis of above said original documents which is standing in the name of Sri. L Pillappa, Sri. L Babu, Sri. L Thimappa, all are sons of late Lakshmaiah and the Certified copy of the Sale Deed bearing No.2814/1945-96 dated 04.03.1946 will be obtained from the Sub-Registrar office and same shall be treated as original title deed of Sri. L Pillappa, Sri. L Babu, Sri. L Thimappa, all S/o late Lakshmaiah with respect to the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Old Site No.9, BBMP Municipal No.23, (Old No.1608), PID No.8-7-23, measuring East to West 45 feet and North to South 70 feet totally measuring 3150 Sq. Feet situated at 1st Cross Road, Nagappa Block, Srirampura, Bengaluru thereon and bounded on **East by:** J C Narasamma's House; **West by:** M G Srinivasa Raman's House; **North by:** Road; **South by:** Conservancy Galli;
A. P. Law Associates
No. 1642/28, 3rd Main 1st Cross
Ramamohanpuram Near Srirampura
Metro Station, (Behind Devaiah Park)
Bengaluru-560021.
Mob :- 9844378777 / 6362583397

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public are hereby informed that my Client **Sri.PRASANNA SWAMY**, Son of Sri.P.K.Swamy, No.5 & 12, 4th Main Road, `SHUBH ENCLAVE', Haraluru Road, Bangalore-560 102 is the full and absolute owner of the all that undivided office space described in the Schedule hereunder. My client represents that he acquired the Schedule Property from his vendors M/s Prestige Whitefield Investments and Developers LLP, in terms of a Sale Deed dated 29/12/2020 registered as Document No.7779 / 2020-21 in Book-I and stored in CD.No.INRD727 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Indiranagar, Bangalore. My Client states that the original Sale Deed dated 29/12/2020 is either lost in transit or mislaid. Any person/s finding the Original Sale Deed dated 29/12/2020 registered as Document No.7779/2020-21 in Book-I and stored in CD.No.INRD727 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Indiranagar, Bangalore may deliver the same to the undersigned forthwith. My client has lodged a complaint before the jurisdictional police regarding loss of title deed. Other than my Client if any person/s were to deal with the said original Sale Deed dated 29/12/2020 the same will not be binding on my Clients and such person/s will not derive any right, title to or interest and such transaction will be void-ab-initio.
SCHEDULE
Undivided Commercial space bearing No.PTS-030-0307 on the Third Floor of Building No.III, in Prestige Techno Star measuring 2500 Sq Ft out of 40125 Sq Ft of Super Builtup area in the third floor with three covered car parking spaces in the basement/surface/MLCP level, presently bearing Municipal Sub No.381/197, together with 810 Sq Ft of undivided share right title interest and ownership in Property bearing Plot Nos. 10 to 15 and Municipal numbers 33/10 to 33/15 in Sy.Nos.73,74,75 and 77 (PID No.73 to 77) measuring 8.005 Acres situated at Doddanekundi Industrial Area, Hoodi Sub-Division, Bangalore.
Sri. K. P. RUPESH KUMAR, Advocate
M/s. LAW CORP,
No.G3,Ground Floor, Mohan Towers,
No. 98/2-27, Residency Road,
Bangalore-560001, (M) 98867 61765.
Bangalore Dt. 23-06-23

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby notified that my client has agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners: **Smt.Narangi Bai W/o late Keval Chand and her sons namely, Sri.Prem Chand K, Sri.Sunil Kumar & Sri.Kamal Jain,** all are residing at: No.283, 1st Main Road, Yeshwanthpura, Bengaluru–560022.
If any person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s to this sale transaction, in writing along with the photocopies of documents on which they are relying, with the undersigned, within 14 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objections received thereafter will not be binding on my client.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal No.18, (old No.111) PID No.7-39-18, measuring East to West 30ft and North to South 70ft,with an old building thereon, situated at Subedar Chatram Road, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore–560022 and bounded on:
East by : 3 ft Common Passage and property of M/s. Yeshwanthpur Cloth Emporium
West by : Property of Munihanumaiah
North by : Subedar Chatram Road
South by : Shariff Saheb Property
Sd/- S.F. Goutam Chand
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

Government of Karnataka
Zilla Panchayat,
Social Welfare Department, Shivamogga
Office of the District Social Welfare Officer, Pruthvi Mansion, 100 feet Road, Vinobha Nagar, Shivamogga
Phone No.: 08182-249241 e-mail: dswsmg@gmail.com
ಸಂ:ಉನಿ/ಸಕಇಶಿ/ಪಮ್ಯ/ನಿಪಕೇಂ/ಆಹಾರಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್.01/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21–06–2023.
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tender Applications are invited through e-procurement from interested tenderers for purchase of food items, vegetables and other miscellaneous items required to Destitute Relief center, Thyavarekoppa, Shivamogga being managed by Social Welfare Department for the year 2023-24. Interested tenderers should upload the tender applications within 5.00 PM on 05.07.2023 in website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in For further information it is requested to contact Office of the Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department, Pruthvi Mansion, Vinobha Nagar, Shivamogga. Office Phone No.: 08182-249241
Sd/- Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department, Shivamogga District
DIPR/smg/No.45/06/ksmca/23-24/111

Government of Maharahstra
Public Work Department, Executive Engineer, P. W. North Division, Ratnagiri
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 32 FOR 2023-2024
Online Tenders (e-tender) In **"B-1"** form for the work is invited by the Executive Engineer. Public work, North Division, Ratnagiri (Phone No. (02352) 223505 on Government of Maharashtra. Electronic Tender Management System, **http://mahatenders.gov.in** from the Appropriate Contractor.
Name of Work :-

1	Reconstruction Of High Level Minor Bridge In Place Of Pipe Causeway And Construction Of Retaining Wall on Aravali Makhjan Karjuve Dingani Sangmeshwar Road MDR-43 AT Km.27/700 Taluka Sangmeshwar District Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs. 1,33,20,964/-**
2	Strengthening And Black Topping To Deorukh Patgaon Patharwadi Vashi Karli Chafawali Road ODR-72 Km.3/00 To 7/00 Taluka Sangmeshwar District Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs.1,31,36,030/-**
3	Strengthening And Black Topping To Aravali Murdav Kumbhakhani Budruk Kuchambe Pachambe Rajivali Road MDR-44 (Including Yegaon Branch) K.M.7/00 To 9/00 To 10/00 And 15/600 To 17/00 Taluka Sangmeshwar District Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs. 1,13,29,058/-**
4	Black Topping To NH-17 To Talkante Tulsani Deorukh Marleshwar Kalakdara Road (Including Marleshwar Branch To NH-204) SH-174 Marleshwar Branch Km. 0/00 To 4/400 Taluka Sangmeshwar Dist Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs. 1,82,56,906/-**
5	Improvement And Black Topping To Aravali Makhajan Karjuve Dingani Sangameshwar M.D.R 43 Km 12/00 To 18/500 Taluka Sangmeshwar District Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs. 2,04,58,060/-**
6	Improvement And Black Topping To Ratnagiri Mirjole Wandri Road MDR-59 Km 8/00 To 16/00 Taluka And District Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs. 1,79,08,519/-**
7	Renewal And Black Topping To Revas Reddi Road MSH-4 (Kudali Jambhari Warawade Ganpatipule Ratnagiri Road Length In Stretches In Km. 529/00 To 536/500 And 548/200 To 552/00) Taluka And District Ratnagiri **Tender Cost Rs. 1,83,01,605/-**

and the details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-tendering Portal **http://mahatenders.gov.in** and **www.mahapwd.gov.in**
Sd/-
For Executive Engineer,
North Ratnagiri P.W. Division, Ratnagiri
DGIPR/2023-2024/1643

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, NEHA Hazara ,W/O Amit Raj Singh, R/N 4056 Prestige Sunrise Park Norwood Neotown Road Electronic City Phase 1,Bangalore–560100.have changed my name as "Neha Hazra" vide afdvt dtd 21/06/2023
I, AYESHA Bi, R/o No 21, 4th Cross, D Block, Govindpura Main Road, Arabic College, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to Shaik Ayesha Ibrahim vide affidavit dt: 21.06.2023 sworn before Notary Sumithra.N, Blr.

SITUATION VACANT
HOTELS
REQUIREMENT PREPARE and cook a variety of South Indian dishes, and cuisine, especially APPE/Appam. Develop innovative and enticing South Indian menus while maintaining traditional flavors. Ensure high–quality standards and consistency in food preparation, taste, and presentation. Job Location: Nagpur (MH) Rs.30,000 p/m 9960007244 /09518587125

LEGAL NOTICE
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1, B.S.N.L. BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR, TELEPHONE HOUSE, RAJBHAVAN ROAD, BENGALURU-560001
OA. NO. 156/2022
BETWEEN :
ICICI BANK LIMITED
Ulsoor, Bangalore-560025.
...APPLICANT
AND :
1. M/S GLOBAL INFRA VENTURES,
Represented by its Proprietor Mr. Sidlingesh. S No. 1396, Block 9 MIG, Souryanagar, Phase- 3, Attibele Main Road, Bangalore- 562107.
...DEFENDANT
NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993
WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 38,88,460.22/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Paisa Twenty Two Only)** together with current and future interest and other relief's. The above Defendant is therefore, hereby directed to before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on 21/09/2023 at 10:30 A.M., as to why relief's prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this tribunal on this the 19th day of June, 2023.
Asst. Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-I
Bangalore

SITUATION VACANT
HOTELS
HIRING HEAD Chef for Cafe. Location: Udupi, Karnataka, Salary: 3-4L PA Contact Number: +91 7349728493

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Location: Chennai
Freelance work also available
hr@mfmediaindia.com

MARKETING
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LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE COURT OF THE LXXIV CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE C.C.H.-75, AT BANGALORE
P & SC No 25039/2023
BETWEEN; 1. Mrs. PARVEEN TAJ W/o. late Anees Ahmed. Aged about 48 years
2.Master SAWFAN AHMED S/o. late Anees Ahmed, Aged about 16 years.
3.Master FAUZAN AHMED. S/o. late Anees Ahmed. Aged about 14 years,
4.Master LUQMAN AHMED, S/o. late Ances Ahmed. Aged about 09 years.
The Petitioners No.2 to 4 are minor
Represented by the petitioner No. 1 Their natural Guardian And Mother All are residing at No.GF-05, Ground Floor. Eshwari Enclave Apartment. Lotus block. 8'th'8'Cross Kanaka Nagar, R.T. Nagar Post. Bengaluru-560032. ...Petitioners
AND:NIL ...Respondents
Whereas the Petitioners abovenamed have filed a Petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act. for grant of a Succession Certificate n respect of the claim of their Deceased Father/husband late Anees Ahmed son of late Mr. Abdul Basheer who died on 03.08.2021.
Whereas the above Petition is posted for hearing on 15.07.2023 and any person having an interest or opposing grant of the Succession Certificate may appear in person or through a Pleader on that day before the court of C.C.H-75, Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on **15.07.2023 at 11 A.M.** failing which the above case will be decided in your absence.
CLAIM OF DECEASED
EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION
Establishment Name: SIDVIN CORETECH (I) PVT LTD
Claim Id : BGBN2209000000851
Member Id :BG/BNG/0041423/000/0010565
Claimant Name : PARVEEN TAJ
Pension Type : DEATH IN SERVICE
Claim Amount : Rs. 4,50,000/-
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 21st day of JUNE 2023.
By Order of the Court
Sd/- Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court Mayo Hall Unit, Bangalore
Advocate for Petitioner
JAMEER BASHA. S. M. Advocate,
No. 17. 1st floor. Dispensary Road. Bangalore-1.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

NUGGETS OF HISTORY

Battle of Kannanur and the end of Hoysala dynasty

The Hoysala dynasty had its origin in the Malenadu region, with Nripa Kama being the first king who ruled between 1026 CE and 1047 CE. The dynasty's end came in the Battle of Kannanur with the army of the Madurai Sultanate in Tamil Nadu in 1343 CE and in which Veera Ballala III was killed.

Two Panchakuta temples constructed during Hoysala period

Of the hundreds of temples constructed during the period of the Hoysalas who ruled large parts of present-day Karnataka between the 11th and 14th centuries — and also made inroads into the neighbouring regions — only two were Panchakuta temples and they were constructed in the 13th century.

Carvings of Vishnu on Panchalingeshwara temple wall panels

Though a Shaiva temple, the Panchalingeshwara temple at Govindanahalli has 21 forms of Vishnu carved on the outer wall panels. In contrast, the Panchalinga temple at Somanathapur has no trace of sculptures or carvings and the outer walls have been left plain.

Creators of temple architecture get recognised

The names of the architects and sculptors responsible for the splendid monuments in India have been rarely recorded. But during the period of the Hoysalas, many of the sculptors used to append their names. Thus historians have the names Dasoja, Malloja, Mallitamma Masanitamma, Chaudeya, Yelamasaya, Baleya et al.

Mallitamma: one of the most prolific sculptors

The signature of Mallitamma appears in 40 sculptures at the Keshava temple at Somanathapur and is reckoned to be one of the most prolific sculptors.
His name is also associated with sculptures in other temples as at Amrutheshwara and Nuggehalli.

Mandya's Hoysala legacy: Hidden gems that beckon attention of history buffs

Tourism Department and Mandya district administration can promote lesser-known monuments by installing signboards about them in places where tourist footfall is high

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

For weekend travellers with a passion for history and archaeology, Mandya district is an excellent place for an immersive experience. But the temples in this largely agrarian region, belonging to the period of the Hoysalas, have failed to grab as much attention as they deserve.

Perhaps proximity to Mysuru, a popular tourist destination, has robbed the sheen off Mandya. However, it has more monuments of national importance and hence protected by the Archaeological Survey of India, compared to Mysuru district.

There are as many as 20 ASI-protected monuments in Mandya against a mere seven such monuments in Mysuru. When both the State-protected and the Centre-protected monuments are considered, Mandya has 50 such monuments of national and State importance against 39 in Mysuru district.

Yet, tourism is underdeveloped in Mandya,

Lakshminarayana temple. R. KRISHNA KUMAR

except for Srirangapatana, given it is conveniently perched on the Mysuru-Bengaluru highway, making it easily accessible. There is also the religious site of Melukote which is also popular for film shooting.

The need to bring the lesser-known monuments to public light is not from a mere tourism perspective alone but to showcase a slice of history and heritage which has been obscured from a majority of the people due to lack of information and distance.

Panchalingeshwara temple
The architecturally significant Panchalingeshwara temple at Govindanahalli in K.R. Pet taluk of Mandya district is a case in point. The region has a hoary past, and its antiquity has been documented by historians who point out that Govindanahalli was a part of Gangawadi under the Gangas of Talakad, and later it came under the Cholas.

It was annexed by the Hoysalas, who ruled the greater part of Karnataka during the 12th and the 13th century CE and during whose period there was a burst of temple construction activities while the sculptors and the architects achieved near-perfection in their artistic endeavour.

Pattern of architecture
According to Prof. N.S. Rangaraju, former Dean of the Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, University of Mysore, most of the temples constructed during the Hoysala period follow the ekakuta, dvikuta or trikuta pattern – temples with a single, double or three garbhagrihas or sanctum sanctorum.

But there are only two examples of Panchakuta shrines or temples, with five shrines constructed by the Hoysalas. One is near the famous Keshava temple at Somanathapur in T. Narsipur taluk of Mysuru district. It was in ruins

The outer wall panel of the 13th-century Lakshminarayana temple at Hosaholalu near K.R. Pet is embellished with sculptures and carvings with the stamp of Hoysala workmanship.
R. KRISHNA KUMAR

The Saumyakeshava temple. R. KRISHNA KUMAR

The sculptures that embellish the outer wall panel of the Lakshminarayana temple at Hosaholalu near K.R. Pet in Mandya district. R. KRISHNA KUMAR

until recently, and the restoration work was taken up by the State Archaeological Department about four years ago and is nearing completion.

"The second Panchakuta temple that has survived to this date is the Panchalingeshwara temple at Govindanahall and is important historically," said Prof. Rangaraju who has done his doctorate on the Hoysalas.

Regarding its architectural importance, Prof. Rangaraju said the Govindanahalli temple is a fine example of the Hoysala style, with five sanctums containing five Shivalingas.

Lead sculptor
Mallithamma's name appears in many other temples of the Hoysala period, including at Somanathapur, and hence it has been construed that he was one of the leading sculptors and architects of the time and was in great demand as he went from place to place to embellish the temples with his magical touch.

"Originally, this was a Chatushkuta or temple with four shrines in a straight line. But a fifth shrine was added later, and this is evident in the slight architectural difference when one compares the extreme right shrine with the other four," according to Prof. Rangaraju.

The Panchalingeshwara temple at Govindanahalli in Mandya district. R. KRISHNA KUMAR

The 12th-century Saumyakeshava temple is a Hoysala monument which displays Vijayanagar and post-Vijayanagar features. R. KRISHNA KUMAR

Govindanahalli is about 20 km from K.R. Pet and is off the main highway to Channarayapatana and 5 km from Kikkeri on the Mysuru-Channarayapatana route.

Lakshminarayana temple
Another temple of significance is the Lakshminarayana temple at Hosaholalu which is about 2 km off K.R. Pet town and easily accessible. "This is a fine specimen of Hoysala style known for ornate embellishment with sculptures and carvings that is evident both in the temple interiors and the outer walls," pointed out Prof. Rangaraju.

The temple, assigned to the 13th century CE, is built on a high platform with stellate corners with elephant sculptures that is typical of most Hoysala temples. And the wall panels have remarkable sculptures of Panduranga, Govardhanadhari or Lord Krishna lifting the Govardhana mountain, Dhanavantri, and Dakshinamurthi, to name a few.

But for the diehard history and architecture buffs who know its existence, the temple does not draw tourists. However, being a live temple where the deity is offered regular puja accompanied by religious rites, it does draw the local population.

Brahmeshwara temple
About 16 km from K.R. Pet is the small town of Kikkeri, which one has to reach before taking a deviation off the main road to reach Govindanahalli. At Kikkeri itself, there is a 12th-century Brahmeshwara temple belonging to the Hoysala period and constructed during the regime of Narasimha I with all the salient features attributable to the Hoysala architecture. But like the other two, this also is off the tourist grid.

"There is potential to promote the three historical temples as there are in close proximity to one another and almost in a straight line. Besides, Kikkeri is on the route to the celebrated site of Shravanabelagola when approached from Mysuru. But the potential is yet to be harnessed," said Prof. Rangaraju.

Saumyakeshava temple
For tourists visiting Melukote, it is the Yoga Narasimhaswamy temple atop the Yadugiri Hill and the Cheluvanarayanaswamy temple in the town below where the exploration ends apart from the Kalyani or the stepped water tank. But if one only proceeds about 28 km ahead towards Nagamangala, there is another Hoysala gem in the Saumyakeshava temple. Dated to the 12th century CE and renovated by successive dynasties, it has both Vijayanagar and post-Vijayanagar features, according to historians.

The Tourism Department and the Mandya district administration can promote the lesser-known Hoysala monuments by installing signboards giving cross-references to important monuments in the district in places where tourist footfalls are high.

"Information boards with details of the monuments, their historicity, location, distance etc., can be provided at Srirangapatana, Mysuru, Melukote etc. This will help nudge tourists to explore some of these places," said K.S. Nagapathi, a tourism expert who has authored a few books on the subject.

What can be done
A one-time installation of an information board providing a cross-reference to other monuments and destinations does not require any running cost to maintain and was one of the appeals made by registered guides to the government but to no avail, according to Devaraj, a licensed guide at Somanathapur in Mysuru district.

Promoting these little-known places of interest along with the Mallikarjuna temple at Basaralu, Kashi Vishweshwara, and Ananta Padmnabha temple at Hosa Budanuru and other similar historically important monuments holds the key to expanding the tourism potential of the region besides bringing them to public light. But stakeholders also believe that as the popularity of these monuments grows, so should the efforts to conserve the architectural marvels, most of which are nearly 1000 years old.

Dengue: TPR higher than State average in 15 districts, including BBMP area

The total number of dengue cases from January till June 17 this year is 2,024 while 2,014 cases were reported in the corresponding period last year

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Although the number of dengue cases in Karnataka in the first six months this year is almost the same as that reported in 2022, at least 15 districts, including BBMP area, have a test positivity rate (TPR) that is higher than the State average of 5.8%.

The total number of cases till June 17 this year is 2,024 while 2,014 cases were reported in the corresponding period last year, according to data from the State Health Department. The State had reported a total of 9,889 dengue cases and nine deaths in 2022. Over half of the total tally in 2022 was added in the last quarter.

An analysis of the week-wise dengue positivity from January this year has shown that 203 cases, the highest, were reported in the week from January 30 to February 5. Subsequently, the weekly cases hovered around 130 and then fell below 100 from April.

Preventive measures: According to officials, steps such as door-to-door surveillance to check larvae breeding in open water storage containers and fogging and spraying to stop mosquito breeding are being taken up. FILE PHOTO

Highest in Bengaluru

With over 36% of the State's total cases this year being reported in Bengaluru, the city continued to record the highest number of positive cases. From 388 cases in the January to June period in 2022, Bengaluru's dengue tally has seen over a two-fold rise to touch 732 this year.

Among districts other than Bengaluru, Mysuru has recorded the highest with 175 cases so far. Mysuru is followed by Vijayapura (113), Chitradurga (91), and Belavagi (78).

Review meeting

Mohammed Sharief, State Programme Officer, National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), told *The Hindu* that a meeting to review the vector-borne disease control programme across the State was held on June 17.

"The goal is to sustain a case fatality rate of less than 1% and contain any outbreaks. While nine dengue deaths were reported last year, there have been no deaths so far this year," he said.

District-level coordination meetings are being conducted to intensify source reduction activities by ASHAs and Health Assistants. Although the situation is under control, we are continuing to create awareness on prevention, regular door-to-door surveillance to check larvae breeding in open water storage containers apart from fogging and spraying to prevent mosquito breeding, the official said.

"We have directed the district health officials to ensure all suspected dengue cases are treated and managed symptomatically. Officials have been told to collect more Virus Antigen Detection (NS1) samples as compared to IgM samples, to ensure early diagnosis," he said.

Reporting system

BBMP Special Commissioner (Health) K.V. Trilok Chandra said while prevention activities have been intensified, the reporting system has also been strengthened. "We have set up zone-wise groups of officials to track fever cases and ensure hospitals promptly report all dengue cases," he said.

"To get an accurate ground-level picture of prevention activities and incidence, we are developing a mobile application and dengue dashboard. Our field staff will update the status of prevention activities and the incidence in their jurisdiction on the mobile app that will also be displayed on the dashboard in the head office. This will ensure that any areas of concern is quickly attended," the official added.

INBRIEF

International Yoga Day celebrated

Kristu Jayanti School of Management, in association with the Centre for Yoga and Wellness, celebrated the International Yoga Day with the first year MBA students of 2022-2024 batch, to promote the practice of yoga, and raise awareness about its benefits.

Tanvi N. Shetty, first year student, delivered a speech on yoga and its significance. The resource person for the event, Vigraanth Bapu K.G., Programme Coordinator (PG) from the Department of Psychology, enlightened the students on yoga. He encouraged them to practice yoga every day, a release stated.

Man bludgeoned to death

A 38-year-old man was bludgeoned to death allegedly by two of his friends after he refused to pay them for drinks at Annapoorneshwarinagar on Wednesday. The deceased has been identified as Vijayakumar, who worked as a waiter at Chamundeshwari Bar and Restaurant.

According to the police, Vijayakumar used to come to the bar to drink often. On Wednesday too, he was drinking when the accused, identified as Girish and Lokesh, confronted him and started demanding money for the drinks. Heated arguments ensued between them, following which Lakshmana Gowda, manager of the bar, asked them to get out.

The trio left in a huff and a few minutes later, people who visited the bar informed Lakshmana about Vijayakumar being attacked by Girish and Lokesh with a hallow brick. Lakshmana went to the spot and he saw Vijayakumar lying dead in a pool of blood. The Annapoorneshwarinagar police have taken up a case of murder, and are trying to track down the accused.

NIMHANS to host two-day 'Y20 Consultation' from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To discuss and address critical issues related to youth empowerment, NIMHANS, in association with the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs, will host a two-day 'Y20 Consultation' from Friday.

Focusing on the crucial theme of 'Health, Well-being, and Sports: Agenda for Youth', the consultation is aimed at creating an inclusive and collaborative space for individuals from diverse backgrounds, including educators, healthcare professionals, policymakers, athletes, and those committed to youth welfare, said Ravi Kumar Sinha, Under Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs.

Recommendations

Addressing presspersons along with NIMHANS Director, Pratima Murthy, Mr. Sinha said the event seeks to generate actionable recommendations that can influence policies, programmes, and initiatives related to youth health, well-being, and sports.

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HIGHER EDUCATION (UE) DEPARTMENT
NOTIFICATION

Government of Andhra Pradesh invites applications for the post of Vice Chancellor to **1.** Andhra University **2.** Dravidian University **3.** Rayalaseema University **4.** Sri Krishnadevaraya University **5.** Sri Venkateswara University **6.** JNTU Ananthapuram **7.** Dr.B.R.Ambedkar University. For other details, please visit **https://apsche.ap.gov.in**. Applications with bio-data filled in the prescribed proforma and other requisite documents may be sent within 20 days from the date of issue of notification by registered post to the following address. **The Chairman, A.P. State Council of Higher Education, 3rd, 4th and 5th floors, Neeladri Towers, Sri Ram Nagar, 6th Battalion Road, Atmakur (V), Managalagiri (M), Guntur - 522503**.

Date: 22-06-2023
Place: Velagapudi

J. SYAMALA RAO
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

Montessori school under the scanner after video clip of child hitting classmate goes viral

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Montessori school in Chikkalasandra area came under the police scanner after a child was found hitting another child in a classroom, which was allegedly locked and left unattended by the teacher for over 10 minutes. The veracity of the footage is being verified by the police.

The incident was purportedly captured on CCTV camera. Worried parents raised the issue of children's safety on social media, and uploaded the video. People vented their ire on the school management, alleging negligence in handling children.

> We have received a Twitter complaint, and are verifying the facts and also trying to contact the parents for their statement.
> **A POLICE OFFICER**

As the video clip went viral, the Bengaluru police social media group directed the jurisdictional Subramanyapura police to probe the matter and take necessary action.

"We have received a Twitter complaint, and are verifying the facts, and also trying to contact the parents for their statement," a police officer said.

Many people who watched the video also tagged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa, Bengaluru Police Commissioner B. Dayananda, and Director-General and Inspector-General of Police Alok Mohan, seeking strict action against the school management. The Department of Public Instruction has ordered an inquiry on the issue. Speaking to *The Hindu*, Baylanjanappa. P, Deputy Director of Public Instruction (South) said, "It is unfortunate and such incidents should not happen in any pre-school. Therefore, I have ordered the Block Education Officer (BEO) for further inquiry. On the basis of his report, we will serve a notice to the Montessori."

Multiple attempts made to contact the owner of the school went in vain.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUN. 23	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:48
RISE 10:03	SET 22:54
SATURDAY, JUN. 24	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:49
RISE 10:50	SET 23:30
SUNDAY, JUN. 25	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:49
RISE 11:36	SET 00:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	24
Mysuru	32	22
Bengaluru	31	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be comfortable and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain or thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Four held on charge of assaulting KSRTC crew

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI/MANGALURU

The Chitradurga district police arrested four persons, including a woman, on Thursday on the charge of assaulting the crew of a KSRTC bus in Challakere town on Thursday.

The arrested have been identified as Chandrika, Mallikarjun, Shivaraj, and Naveen, residents of Challakere.

The woman, a Shakti scheme beneficiary, and the other accused got the conductor A.B. Chandre Gowda out of the bus when he was facilitating passengers to disembark at Challakere Circle at 6.30 a.m. The bus was plying from Rayadurg in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh to Bengaluru. The four later rained blows on the conductor. In his complaint to the Challakere police, Mr. Gowda said driver Hanumantha too was assaulted when he came to his (conductor's) rescue.

The KSRTC, in a statement, said the woman boarded the same bus on June 20 to travel to Dobbspet in Nelamangala taluk. Upon Mr. Gowda saying that the bus would not stop at Dobbspet as it was an inter-State service and suggesting that she travel up to Tumakuru, the woman bought a ticket up to Hiriyur, saying she would take another bus from there.

However, she did not alight at Hiriyur and instead bought another ticket to Tumakuru. The woman, Mr. Gowda said, did not alight at Tumakuru either and instead began abusing him and threatening him brandishing her footwear. The conductor got the bus stopped near Dobbspet flyover where the woman alighted.

Early Thursday morning, the woman came along with Mallikarjun, and Shivaraj and Naveen, her sons, and assaulted the crew, the conductor said in the complaint.

The Challakere police have registered cases of wrongful restraint, causing hurt with weapon and hurting a public servant thereby deterring him from performing his duty, under the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code against the accused.

The KSRTC, meanwhile, clarified that the crew did not misbehave with the woman passenger on June 20 as alleged by a few. Clear instructions had been given to the crew to maintain proper conduct with passengers at all times, it said.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Indian fishermen arrested for poaching in Sri Lanka

22 fishermen. The Sri Lankan Navy arrested fishermen and seized their four trawlers for alleged poaching in its territorial waters. The fishermen hailed from the Ramanathapuram, Pudukottai and Nagapattinam districts in Tamil Nadu. PTI

Indian contingent's medal rush at the Special Olympics

55 medals. India won 15 gold, 27 silver, and 13 bronze medals across 5 different sports — athletics, cycling, powerlifting, roller skating and swimming — at the Special Olympics. Swimming and cycling dominated the wins in Berlin. PTI

Bids for procurement of Vande Metro trains invited by MRVC

238 trains. The Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation issued an international tender for the procurement of 2,856 coaches of Vande Metro trains for Mumbai's suburban network as part of the Mumbai Urban Transport Project. PTI

IMF target met for battling climate and poverty issues

100 in $ billion. At a climate financing summit in Paris, Chief of the International Monetary Fund, Kristalina Georgieva told that rich countries have met the target for climate and poverty funds for developing countries. AFP

Odisha approves scheme for provision of nutrition for women

3,354 in ₹ crore. The Mukhyamantri Sampoorna Pushti Yojana aims to transform nutrition outcomes of adolescent girls, pregnant women and underweight children. PTI

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The uproar over the new COP28 President

Who is Sultan al-Jaber? What is his role as the COP28 UAE President? What are his strategies to tackle climate change? Why did his advocacy of carbon capture receive criticism? What are the countries supporting al-Jaber's appointment?

EXPLAINER

Diksha Munjal

The story so far:

Almost a week after the United Nations' crucial climate meetings in Bonn, Germany from June 5 to 15, which are considered the halfway mark to the COP (Conference of Parties) climate summit in November, questions over the COP28 Presidency of United Arab Emirates (UAE) Industry Minister Sultan Ahmed al-Jaber still remain. Each year, the host country for the COP summit nominates a president to helm the climate negotiations with almost 200 countries. The UAE announced Mr. al-Jaber, the State oil company CEO, as its pick in January, a move that received immense backlash from Western lawmakers, leaders of some countries, as well as civil society groups.

Who is Sultan al-Jaber?

Mr. al-Jaber, the CEO of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) since 2016, was appointed as UAE's Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology in 2020, a new department established that year. The leader, who has a chemical engineering and economics background, was serving as a Minister of State in the UAE government since 2013. Also in 2020, he was for the second time appointed as the UAE's special envoy for climate change, a role previously held by him from 2010 to 2016.

He was also serving in a contrasting role, as the Chairman of Masdar, a renewable energy firm in Abu Dhabi, which he helped start in 2006. According to the BBC, Masdar is now active in more than 40 countries and has invested in mainly solar and wind power projects of a total capacity of 15 gigawatts, which is capable of displacing more than 19 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

In July Mr. al-Jaber was also appointed Chairman of the Emirates Development Bank, which according to his Ministry's website, provides financial services for the sustainable economic and social development of the UAE.

The Guardian reported late last month that Mr. al-Jaber's team was being accused of attempting to "greenwash" his image. It emerged that members of his team had edited Wikipedia pages that talked about his role as CEO of ADNOC; they were accused of inserting a quote from a *Bloomberg* editorial that said he was "precisely the kind of ally the climate movement needs."

Why is Sultan al-Jaber's appointment facing criticism?

Climate campaigners and groups have been voicing their discontent with the appointment of an oil executive to head a summit responsible for brokering global partner negotiations to mitigate climate change and build a framework to meet the countries' pledge at the 2015 summit in Paris to limit global warming to 1.5 °C as against pre-industrial levels.

Scientists are unanimous on the fact that carbon emissions need to be halved by 2030 and 'net zero' emissions reached mid-century if the goal has to be achieved.

Another agreement within the scientific community and many world leaders is that reducing the production and use of fossil fuel resources– coal, oil and gas– is the way to meeting the promises of the Paris Agreement.

The UAE leader who was present at Bonn, did say that COP28 was going to be "inclusive" and deliver a "game-changing outcome" to tackle climate change, but he did not talk about a concrete plan to phase out fossil fuels or address his links to the fossil fuel industry. However, as CEO of the state oil firm ADNOC, Mr. al-Jaber's 2030 strategy is to build a more "profitable upstream, more valuable downstream and more sustainable and economic gas supply," which essentially means more fossil fuels.

Controversial appointment: Sultan Ahmed al-Jaber speaks at a event at the Bonn Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany on June 8. GETTY IMAGES

Critics, like Michael Bloss, a German member of the European Parliament and one of the 133 lawmakers who signed the open letter, argue that the appointment was "a scandal" and a "perfect example of a conflict of interest." The member of the German Green Party says, "It's like putting the tobacco industry in charge of ending smoking."

"The decision to name as president of COP28 the chief executive of one of the world's largest oil and gas companies–a company that has recently announced plans to add 7.6 billion barrels of oil to its production in the coming years, representing the fifth largest increase in the world– risks undermining the negotiations," says the letter by lawmakers to U.S. President Joe Biden and European Commission president Ursula Von der Leyen. The signatories also include the likes of U.S. senator Bernie Sanders, veteran Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, among others.

The letter pointed out how "at least 636 lobbyists from the oil and gas industries registered to attend last year's COP–an increase of more than 25% over the previous year."

While the number of attendees representing the fossil fuel industry was large last year, there are concerns about increased space for such interests at the upcoming summit, considering the new leadership.

According to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), ADNOC pumped 2.7 million barrels of oil per day in 2021 and has ambitious plans. It is vying to nearly double its daily output to five million barrels by 2027 – a deadline which was moved forward from 2030 this year by Mr. al-Jaber.

"We are an emerging upstream company... with a mandate to stay focused on exploring the UAE's undeveloped oil and gas potential," the official website of ADNOC reads.

Experts also highlight that it is in the UAE's national interest to continue the production of fossil fuels as the 10th largest oil producer in the world and as a historic member of the influential OPEC+ oil cartel of countries.

Why has Mr. al-Jaber's advocacy of carbon capture been criticised?

On climate goals, some world leaders have been pushing for a phaseout of fossil fuels as the way to go while others insist on oil and gas continuing to play a role in the future, provided their emissions are somehow curbed. Mr. al-Jaber belongs to the latter school of thought.

Climate campaigners and scientists have expressed caution that technologies proposed so far to capture fossil fuel emissions have not been tested at scale. They also argue that such responses do not hit at the root cause of the problem and look at post facto containment once emissions are released, pointing out that they could also divert attention and resources from effective alternatives such as renewable energy.

Mr. al-Jaber has talked about the need to tackle fossil fuel emissions, a stand that observers say mark his inclination to industry interest. He has said that the goal should be a global system "free of unabated fossil fuels." The term 'abated' relates to approaches used in reducing or capturing greenhouse gas emissions that result from the burning of fossil fuels.

At the Bonn talks this week, German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock emphasised that the proposal to tackle emissions shouldn't take away from the need to drastically cut fossil fuel use, a position shared by other European nations and vulnerable island states where sea levels are rising making them extremely vulnerable to climate impacts.

Stakeholders like Denmark's climate minister, Dan Jørgensen, say that carbon capture and storage technologies his country is testing in the North Sea should only be restricted to sectors where cutting emissions is extremely hard, such as the cement industry.

Meanwhile, the UAE, while having backed the idea of significantly boosting wind and solar power, has made clear that it wants to keep fossil fuels as an option for the foreseeable future. Mr. al-Jaber said his country wants "a comprehensive, holistic approach to an energy transition that included all sources of energy."

"We know that fossil fuel will continue to play a role in the foreseeable future, helping meet global requirements so our aim should be a focus on ensuring that we phase out emissions from all sectors whether it's oil and gas or high emitting industries," he said. "In parallel, we should assert all effort and all investments in renewable energy and clean technology space."

He did, however, say that the phase down of fossil fuels was "inevitable" while stopping short of advocating a complete ban.

More than 80 countries backed efforts to put oil and gas, not just coal, on notice at the last UN climate summit in Egypt. These are countries in Europe and small and vulnerable island nations which are at risk of sinking and have adopted strict climate action policies. Meanwhile, the U.S and the U.K. have backed Mr. al-Jaber's Presidency.

Many stakeholders argue that having all voices at the table, including a decisive figure from the oil industry, can make negotiations more concrete and realistic. Developing nations like Bangladesh and the Maldives have also said that fossil fuel-dependent economies are critical to climate negotiation and mitigation efforts, and that they have a more difficult task defining their energy transition strategy.

They are banking on Mr. al-Jaber to help secure climate investments supported by sovereign wealth funds and multilateral development banks.

They argue that for the poorer and developing countries, curtailing economic growth is not an option while the rich and developed countries continue to pollute. India, which has been an advocate of climate justice, has also supported Mr. al-Jaber's appointment.

What plans has Mr. al-Jaber highlighted to tackle climate change?

Mr. al-Jaber has reiterated the need to double down on renewables. He said in a speech this year that "reaching net zero will deliver the biggest market transformation, greatest economic and human promise since the first Industrial Revolution," adding that this could be done by tapping into the renewables market.

Supporting the idea that developing nations, while vulnerable to climate change, have their economic and development priorities fulfil, Mr. al-Jaber said one of the important focuses of the negotiations would be to get funds from bigger nations and multilateral development banks, institutions, and to activate already existing corpus funds to which nations have pledged.

THE GIST

The UAE announced Sultan al-Jaber, the CEO of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, as a president to helm the climate negotiations, a move that received backlash from Western lawmakers, leaders of some countries, as well as civil society groups.

Mr. al-Jaber's 2030 strategy is to build a more "profitable upstream, more valuable downstream and more sustainable and economic gas supply," which essentially means more fossil fuels.

Many groups are disappointed by the appointment of an oil executive to head a summit which is responsible for brokering global partner negotiations to mitigate climate change.

Did mission decongestion in Bengaluru work?

It has been almost a year since the heads of various civic departments, and others, including the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore Development Authority, and Bengaluru Traffic Police, identified seven congested junctions in Bengaluru city. They were Hebbal, Goraguntepalya, Tin Factory, Sarakki Junction, Jayadeva Junction, Iblur Junction, and Silk Board Junction. Cut to the present day, the commuters on these busy routes feel like not much has changed. There is a lot of room for improvement, they said.

Some respite from traffic jam at K.R. Puram

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The widening of the road and provision of bus bays on either side of the cable bridge at K.R. Puram has provided some respite from traffic congestion at the busy junction, infamous for traffic snarls. However, only the completion of Namma Metro construction work in the area will hopefully provide more relief to commuters travelling through the bottleneck.

"Commuting through the junction has definitely improved after the road was widened and bus stops were built. But metro construction continues to pose hurdles and cause traffic jams every day during morning and evening peak hours," said Subhash Raj, a techie who travels through the junction every day. Krishnamurthy, a shopkeeper at Tin Factory Junction, said the junction could be eased only after metro construction was completed, and that seemed like many years away.

A team of senior officials led by Rakesh Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, had tasked BMRCL with the widening of the road and provision of bus bays on either side of the flyover, which has now been completed, building a new skywalk at the end of the flyover connecting K.R. Puram Railway Station to the Metro Station, which is yet to be completed, making commute through the stretch a tough ordeal still.

"Every time a train arrives at the K.R. Puram Railway Station, nearly 3,000 people cross the road, for which we need to stop vehicles. If a skywalk is built connecting the Railway Station towards the Metro station, we can make the flyover junction signal free, providing much respite," said M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner (Traffic), Bengaluru.

Anjum Parvez, MD, BMRCL, said they were waiting for approval from South Western Railway as the Foot-Over-Bridge will land in their land and once they get the approval it would be taken up very soon.

Meanwhile, work to connect Baiyappanahalli and K.R. Puram Metro stations – a 4.5 km stretch which would connect the IT corridor with the rest of the city – is in full swing and is expected to be completed by August end. This would also decongest the stretch.

Plan in Hebbal keeps moving through loops

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

A sort of a gateway to Bengaluru, those coming from Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) towards the city cannot miss the Hebbal flyover. It is also the route for commuters to Yeshwantpur on one side and K.R. Puram on the other side.

In the decongestion plan, it was decided to give direct access for those coming from the airport to the flyover while cutting it off for those who are on the service road or are going towards Yeshwantpur.

As a result, the vehicles moving on the service road, including all buses, had to pass below the flyover and go towards Outer Ring Road (ORR) and take the ramp to get to the city.

The BTP officials claimed that the segregation of vehicles reduced the travel time on the flyover from 22 minutes to 10 minutes. The commuters, who usually directly climb the flyover, agree.

"I have been travelling on this route for over a decade now. It is easier to cross the flyover now as the vehicular load is relatively less. The traffic police also stand on the flyover and ensure that there is no congestion on any lane or loop which is also helpful," said Ravish K., a motorist.

For some others, the changes are not so useful. "Previously depending on how the traffic was at the time, we used to decide if we could go above the flyover or below it and cover the loop. After they made it compulsory, buses definitely added congestion before the signal there. It has increased our travel time now," said a BMTC bus conductor.

Recently, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar also visited Hebbal and sought proposals from various departments to decongest the flyover. Kumar Naik, Commissioner, BDA, proposed to build additional loops on the flyover and an underpass below the flyover as it is the quick, doable option.

The work on adding another ramp to the flyover from Esteem Mall to Baptist Hospital on Ballari Road started a few days ago.

NHAI has also proposed a plan which involves the beautification and conversion of Hebbal Lake into a tourist hub while also easing congestion at many points.

Growing number of vehicles at Goraguntepalya

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Ask any regular commuter in Goraguntepalya, and they will say that the traffic situation at the junction has been the same for years now, and they have no hope of it getting better. While the junction is on Tumakuru Road, which further connects vehicles to many districts, it also connects to the Outer Ring Road.

From BMTC buses to KSRTC and private buses, this is the spot where lakhs of commuters get off. With the Green Line of the metro passing through, there is even a metro station near the junction, making it one of the most important transit hubs of the city.

Last year, various issues ranging from asphalting the road and clearing the traffic police kiosks to enable smooth flow of traffic to long-term plans like the construction of an underpass linking Outer Ring Road and a grade-level road up to ALISDA were discussed by the civic authorities.

The BTP also said they cleared the service road to act as a bus bay and freed three lanes for the movement of traffic. At the junction, however, it can be noticed that bus catchers come to the traffic movement lanes too while waiting for the bus.

"To be honest, we could say that the traffic here has gotten worse in the last year, which could mainly be because of the increasing number of vehicles.

But the authorities' plans did not do much about the congestion here. The traffic coming from Hebbal side especially piles up for at least three signals during peak hours," said Jagadeesh, a delivery executive.

The problem persists in this junction for pedestrians even though it was stressed upon last year that a skywalk was necessary.

"There are big buses everywhere you look here. We cannot avoid crossing the roads. Especially for someone like me, these big vehicles suddenly coming could turn fatal at any moment," lamented Saraswathi, a senior citizen.

Marginal change at Jayadeva junction; peak hour a challenge

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

At the Jayadeva Junction, the traffic situation improved a little after decongestion measures were implemented. However, during the peak hour, the junction still consumes travel time of about 10 minutes as against 15-20 minutes.

The traffic police first cleared the materials placed for metro construction, creating more space at the junction falling on Bannerghatta Road, which sees the movement of lakhs of vehicles.

The measures were taken after consultation with both BBMP and Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL).

Sometimes,during the peak hours traffic personnel, man the junction to clear the snarl.

Sudarshan Rohan, a resident of J.P. Nagar 3rd Phase who is into real estate, said he had felt a change, although not significant. "I take this road regularly, and earlier, I used to get stuck for more than 20 minutes sometimes, like the Sarakki junction. Now even in the peakhour, I can move out in just 10-12 minutes," he said.

Silk Board remains the same

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Central Silk Board junction, infamous for traffic, remains the same. This junction connects the east and southeast parts of the city while connecting Hosur Road.Apart from the infamous traffic of the Silk Board, now an additional issue is the construction of the Silk Board - Hebbal metro line, which has been in progress at the junction for the last four years.

Jayananada Kumar, a car showroom manager near the junction, said, "The never-ending construction of the metro is a major problem of traffic in this junction. The road is flooded during rains, and then potholes add to the mess. Now it takes at least 30 to 40 minutes to pass the Silk Board signal during the peak hours."

Last year, the government asked the storm-water drain department to repair the drains on both sides of BTM Layout - Silk Board Road to prevent the overflow of sewage water during rains. There has been no progress in this regard.

The much-awaited R.V. Road to Bommasandra Metro line (19 km), which will connect Electronics City via Silk Board, is likely to start operations in December 2023 and expected to decongest the junction to a large extent.

Sustainable measures at Iblur junction is a dream

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Despite various civic bodies trying to implementsustainable measures at the busy Iblur junction in East Bengaluru to ease traffic congestion, the junction sees heavy traffic not just during peak hours, complained local residents.

The junction is at the intersection of the Outer Ring Road (ORR) and Sarjapur Road.

The traffic cops say that the problem starts from the Sarjapur fire station and then at Haralur junction, leading to traffic congestion at Iblur junction.

A senior traffic police officer said that there was a proposal to make it a signal-free junction on an experimental basis, however it is yet to happen.

Naresh Rao, a local resident, said, "The local authorities have to fix the infrastructure of Sarjapur Road and install traffic lights at other important junctions so that the traffic will not congested here."

Potholes have been another mess on this stretch and near the junction. Recently, waiting for the BBMP to fill up the pothole, finally the Bellandur traffic police had to fill the potholes at Iblur junction and Sarjapur Road.

The civic authorities have not yet started the proposed work of improving the pedestrian paths from Haralur junction to Iblur junction.

The redesigning of the two islands in the junction to create more space for vehicles coming from Sarjapur road to Outer Ring Road (ORR) is also yet to start.

Krishna Nair, a resident of Bellandur, said that the other reason for traffic near the junction is metro work.

Traffic gridlock still a nightmare for motorists at Sarakki junction

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Other than the signal-free left turn for vehicles coming from Konanakunte towards ORR, not many problems which were identified by the decongestion team last year have been resolved in Sarakki junctions. Yet, the traffic gridlock continues to be a nightmare for motorists travelling on ORR as well as those who commute towards to core areas of the city via this junction.

BTP has deployed some home guards to assist with traffic maintenance and make sure that no vehicles are parked on the road blocking traffic. They have also provided 15 seconds pedestrian signals for them to cross the road at the junction. Pedestrians said this was not enough and demanded that a skywalk be erected soon.

The traffic police's move to restrict the right turn towards J.P. Nagar for vehicles coming from Konanakunte had to be withdrawn after the move was opposed by regular commuters as it shifted the traffic jams to the vegetable market on Banashankar - J.P. Nagar Road instead of easing it.

One of the most important suggested measures last year for the junction was the construction of a metro-cum-road flyover by BMRCL (cost shared byBBMP) at the height of over 55 feet to ease the traffic snarls. However, there has been little progress on this project.

Many other measures, including the raising of the height of the traffic signal on the BMRCL pillar by three feet, installing grills and pedestrian polls and raising the service road to Ring Road level have all been pending at the junction.

Abdul Aleem, president, Changemakers of Kanakapura Road Association, said, "Sarakki Junction is one of the major junctions which connects the major areas of the city. But owing to non-cooperation among elected representatives, BBMP and BMRCL, the junction has remained problematic for the people. We urge the BMRCL and BBMP to work together on the flyover as well as the metro alignment. The traffic police should also take initiative to resolve the traffic problem."

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A still from the upcoming *Barbie*, starring Margot Robbie. AP

Barbie: this sea of neon pink promises a blend of fun with savage satire

Greta Gerwig, the director of the movie, is said to have taken inspiration from the 'authentic artificiality' and 'the tangibility of the artifice' of classical musicals as well as from Mary Pipher's non-fiction book on the pressures faced by American adolescents

Mini Anthikad Chhibber

The very first live-action feature film based on Mattel's iconic fashion doll is only coming out now, in 2023, more than 60 years after the doll was launched on March 9, 1959. It is ironic that the doll that has been singularly responsible for scarring the psyche of so many, was launched a day after International Women's Day!

The irony continues as the film is opening on July 21, going head-to-head with the Christopher Nolan's very serious *Oppenheimer*.

There are over 40 animation films based on Barbie from *Barbie in the Nutcracker* (2001) to *Barbie: Skipper and the Big Babysitting Adventure* (2023). The live-action movie has been in development since 2009. Several actors and directors were attached to the project at different points of time including Diablo Cody, Amy Schumer, Anne Hathaway, Alethea Jones and Patty Jenkins, till the final combination of Margot Robbie starring as the blonde doll, with Greta Gerwig directing from a screenplay she wrote with Noah Baumbach.

Subversions galore

The 39-year-old Ms. Gerwig with Academy Award nominations for her *Lady Bird* (2017) and *Little Women* (2019) might seem a strange choice to write and direct a film on a plastic doll which has had people wax eloquent on the harm it has done with its stereotyping of gender roles and acceptable beauty standards. The trailers, however, reveal the delicious subversions that are in store.

The teaser tells the story of the inspiration for the doll.

Ruth Handler, who created the doll, apparently noticed that while her daughter, Barbara, enjoyed giving adult roles to her dolls, the dolls in the market were all baby dolls with chubby cheeks, dimple chin, curly hair, and very fair (sigh). When she suggested a doll with an adult body, her husband Elliot, who was a co-founder of the Mattel toy company, was not convinced.

Handler, while travelling with her children in Germany, saw the Bild Lilli doll, based on a comic-strip character, Lilli.

The doll was launched in 1955 in Germany and had a full wardrobe of 1950s fashion – how charming that would have been! And so Barbie, named after Handler's daughter, inspired by Lilli, was born. Incidentally, Handler's son is called Kenneth and Barbie's on-off boyfriend is called Ken – psychologists can have a field day with that.

Toy story

Coming back to the teaser, with its unsettling Kubrick-ian vibe from the auteur's 1968's *2001: A Space Odyssey*, we like all the little children playing with their baby dolls, see Robbie as a giant Barbie doll dressed in the zebra-striped one-piece swimsuit that the first Barbie sported back in 1959. The little children immediately destroyed their baby dolls looking up in awe at the glamazon towering over them.

Apart from all the pink in the trailer, which apparently caused a worldwide shortage of pink paint, (the manufacturers however, say the shortage was caused by supply chain issues because of COVID-19) Barbie seems to be going through an existential crisis which causes her to be expelled from Barbie Land to the real world.

Barbie's arched feet have gone flat (her heels touch the ground, she says in wondering horror), ensuring she does not have to walk on her signature tiptoes.

Her boyfriend, Ken, played by Ryan Gosling, accompanies Barbie on her real-world adventure.

The trailer also has Ken asking Barbie if he should stay over.

When Barbie asks why, he says "because we are girlfriend and boyfriend", but when pressed about what they are to do when he stays over, Ken admits to not knowing. The exchange reiterates the simultaneous sexualisation and neutering of the doll.

Multiple avatars

As Barbie greets all the different versions of herself in the trailer, it is a hat-tip to her many avatars even if there is every chance of split personalities and other mental health challenges.

Kate McKinnon plays Weird Barbie, who with her hacked hair and scribbles on her face is a personification of children's rough treatment of their toys.

Issa Rae's President Barbie is a tribute to the President Doll line, and transgender actor Hari Nef as Doctor Barbie is a call back to the 1973 doll which was so influential that Mattel created a commemorative reproduction in 2022.

Alexandra Shipp's Writer Barbie is reminiscent of the Maya Angelou Barbie doll from 2021 and Emma Mackey's physicist Barbie is inspired by a combination of the scientist, STEM leader, and astrophysicist Barbie dolls. There is Sharon Rooney as lawyer Barbie, Ana Cruz Kayne as judge Barbie, Ritu Arya as journalist Barbie, Dua Lipa as mermaid Barbie from 2018's blue Dreamtopia Mermaid Barbie doll, and Nicola Coughlan as diplomat Barbie, an echo of Australian diplomat Julie Bishop who was honoured with a Barbie doll. Thankfully, there are no killer Ken and Barbie dolls – that would have been too dark.

Celebrating the unreal

In interviews, Gerwig has spoken of taking inspiration from the "authentic artificiality" and "the tangibility of the artifice" of classical musicals as well as from Mary Pipher's non-fiction book on the pressures faced by American adolescents, *Reviving Ophelia* (1994).

With the avowed aim of giving the audience what in Robbie's words, "the thing you didn't know you wanted," *Barbie* should be a fun ride even without Aqua's smartly subversive hit single, 'Barbie Girl'. Yes, a snatch plays in the background at the end of the main trailer, but that is only a cover.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

There was significant outrage when Netflix dropped the trailer for its new 'docudrama' about Queen Cleopatra. Here is a quiz on some controversial films/shows

Radhika Santhanam

QUESTION 1

This film sparked a lot of controversy. The director of this film — a famous Italian-American who was nominated for an Oscar for the same film, had a "very cordial" meeting with the Pope. Name the film and the director.

QUESTION 2

"I felt a little raped, both by Marlon and Bertolucci," said the actress of this film, who died in 2011. The drama surrounding this film, which has explicit sexual content, was limited to the screen when it was released.The title of the film contains the name of a city in France. Which film is this?

QUESTION 3

A fringe organisation threatened to cut off the nose of the lead actress, set fire to vehicles, vandalised the sets of the film, and slapped the director of this film which was based on an epic poem by 16th century poet Malik Muhammad Jayasi. Which film is this?

QUESTION 4

One of her films, about the Nuremberg rally, is known as one of the best propaganda films ever made. She said she never knew of the existence of gas chambers in Nazi Germany or of concentration camps. Who is she?

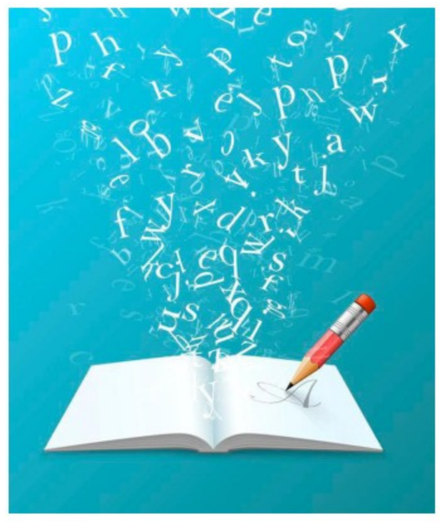
QUESTION 5

This film was released three weeks after its director Pier Paolo Pasolini was murdered, due to its depiction of graphic violence, torture and sexual abuse.
Name the film.

Visual Question

This film was based on an unpublished story by Ismat Chughtai. It didn't get clearance for eight months from the Censor Board. Later it was shown to Indira Gandhi, whose approval aided its limited release. Which film is this?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This is the percentage of the total Type 1 diabetics burden. **Ans: 5-10%**
2. Name the organ and the tissue that causes diabetes. **Ans: Pancreas, Islets of Langerhans**
3. Name the animal that researchers used to induce symptoms of diabetes and then treat successfully with shots of insulin. **Ans: A dog**
4. Insulin was first used to save a child with Type 1 diabetes in this year. **Ans: January, 1922**
5. Name the specific guideline for a blood sugar test. **Ans: Testing blood glucose 2 hours after patient is given a 75 g oral glucose solution, also known as oral glucose tolerance test.**
6. Visual: Identify what makes it relevant in this quiz. **Ans: The girl has a insulin pump on her right hand**
Early Birds: Parveen rewri | M. Suresh Kumar | Divya Narang



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, a reader would like to know the difference between 'I shall go tomorrow' and 'I will go tomorrow'."

"In traditional British English, 'shall' in the first person singular and the first person plural expresses a mere future. The first person singular, as you know, is 'I' and the first person plural is 'we'. 'Shall' in 'I shall go tomorrow' indicates mere future. It is free from the desire of the person concerned.

I shall be fifty tomorrow.
We shall meet next week.

I will go tomorrow' means 'I intend to go tomorrow' or 'I promise to go tomorrow'. 'Will' used with the first person implies desire or promise or determination.

Today I am here. Tomorrow I will be in Delhi.

'I shall', 'We shall' state a fact. 'I will', 'We will' state the intention. Future time is denoted by 'shall' in the first person. Intention is denoted by 'will' in the first person. However, in modern English the distinction between 'shall' and 'will' in the first person has almost disappeared. 'Will' and 'shall' have been reduced to 'll' both in writing and speech. As you know, 'll' is the reduced form of 'will'. 'Shall' is used in questions with 'I' or 'we'.

Shall I open the door?

Shall we go? 'Shall' here means 'would you like me or us to' or 'do you want me or us to...?'

Shall I shut the door?
Shall I come and spend the weekend with you?

You are asking for advice or suggestions when you say 'Where shall I go?', 'What shall I do?' In questions 'will' is generally not used in the first person."

"Sir, Mr. N. Bhaskaran Pillai, Revathi, Quilon, wants to know whether the word 'repairer' can be used for a person who repairs or whether 'repairman' should be used in its place."

"The word 'repairer' exists and there is nothing wrong with it. "Repairman' is used in American English. A repairman in America is generally a person who repairs a machine. I am expecting the typewriter repairman this afternoon. 'Repairer' is a general term and 'repairman' a specific one. However, there is an increasing tendency in America to use 'repairman' in the sense of 'repairer'."

"Sir, Mr. S. Keerthivasan, Elayalur, wants to know the meaning of 'on the anvil'."

" 'Anvil' is the block of iron on which metal is hammered and shaped. Figuratively, 'on the anvil' or 'upon the anvil' means in 'preparation or under discussion'. The scheme is on the anvil'."

"Sir, Ms Srimathi Srinivasan, M.E.S. College, Bangalore, wants to know the pronunciation of 'merchandise'."

"You know how to pronounce the word 'merchant'. Pronounce the final 't' as 'd' and you get the pronunciation of 'merchand'; 'ise' is pronounced like the 'ize' in 'size' . The stress is on the first syllable."

Published in The Hindu on June 06, 1988

Word of the day

Luminary:
a person of prominence

Synonyms: inspiration, leader, expert

Usage: *He was the host to a large gathering of luminaries.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/luminarypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'lu:mɪn(ə)ɹi/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Filmmaker Pawan Kumar talks about his upcoming Malayalam film *Dhoomam*, the challenges of finding a producer and a hero, and working with Fahadh Faasil

Smoke signals

Vivek MV
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In 15 years, director Pawan Kumar has gone from ideating a project close to his heart to almost shelving it to finally completing it with a dream team. *C10H14N2* was born as a Kannada film in 2008. On June 23, the story will come alive on screen as *Dhoomam*, a Malayalam suspense thriller also dubbed in four languages.

"I know that the original title is an emotion for cine buffs in Karnataka. That said, when you make a big film with popular actors and a huge production house, its title must be easy to remember and pronounce. If I say *C10H14N2*, it feels like another *Lucia* kind of an attempt, where I independently go and do bizarre stuff," Pawan says with a chuckle.

The trailer of *Dhoomam* does not give away much except that the film revolves around smoking. Pawan is known for his mind-bending storytelling (*Lucia, U Turn)* with technical nuances. "I want people to see beyond my style and think about the plot's core theme," he says.

Anurag Kashyap is a director he looks up to. Interestingly, the dismal performance of Anurag's *No Smoking* became a deterrent to Pawan's bid to make this film as producers were apprehensive about another film on smoking. After several rejections from stars and producers in Kannada and other industries, Pawan has successfully finished this film with a dream team, comprising actors Fahadh Faasil, Roshan Mathew, Aparna Balamurali, Achyuth Kumar and production house Hombale Films, the makers of the *KGF* franchise and *Kantara*.

Excerpts from an interview with Pawan:

Q: *You experienced second-hand smoke during your early days in the industry. Did that trigger you to think of a film on smoking?*
A: How does one start to smoke? That's something I was curious about. I don't think any smoker proudly says he is happy doing it. Deep down, all smokers want to quit. The habit has taken over them so much that they start defending it. I didn't want to demonise them.

Q: *Anurag Kashyap's* No Smoking *showed the perils of addiction and the difficulties of quitting a habit. What aspect of smoking does* Dhoomam *explore?*
A: When you make a film only about smoking, it might not work.

No Smoking was a cerebral film. Only a few people understood or liked it. My point was to make the audience face the questions that I had when I experienced second-hand smoke. I can replace tobacco with cell phones or liquor and the film would still work.

Q: *When you work on a script for so many years, how does the writing process evolve?*
A: With experience, I learnt to be meticulous in writing. I restructured the script in 2018. For example, I would ask myself why I took three pages to convey something that needs just a line.

Every project taught me how effectively you can say things. It's also important to let go of scenes that you liked; some portions written long ago might even make you cringe now!

Q: *You were adventurous with* Lucia *as you pulled off a crowd-funded film. You experimented with* U Turn *by making it with a shoe-string budget. Working with an established production house like Hombale might have been a different experience...*
A: The indie nature of filmmaking remained inside me throughout the shoot. *Lucia* and *U Turn* were high-concept films done with constrained budgets. If a location cost this many lakhs per day, I'd immediately think of how I could shoot the scene more cost-effectively.

My DOP Preetha Jayaraman would say, "You have Hombale backing you, so you don't have to think like that. You can tell them what you want and they will give you." I also had a superb art director (Anees Nadodi) who made everything possible for me. We shot the film in just 46 or 47 days.

Q: *Tell us about your association with actor Fahadh Faasil; what is your take away from working with him?*

Wake up call Aparna Balamurali and Fahadh Faasil in *Dhoomam,* (below) Pawan Kumar with actor Fahadh Faasil and cinematographer Preetha Jayaraman. HOMBALE FILMS/YOUTUBE

A: He is a shy guy. He told me that whenever he met his friends, sometimes, they would watch *Lucia*. He had also expressed his interest in working with me in interviews.

Hombale happened to meet Fahadh, and he asked if I had a script ready for him. But I was sure that even he would read the script and reject it, as I'd almost given up on the project. If nobody wanted to do it for over 10 years, then there is something wrong with the script, I thought. Thankfully, he showed faith in it.

I had seen him in *Joji* and *CU Soon*. I thought he would be like Marlon Brando *(laughs)*, coming to sets with a lot of preparation. However, he approaches every film as his first. He has zero hang-ups. He is an instinctive actor and not a performer who would sit alone in a place to prepare.

When I watched *Dhoomam*, I saw some scenes and wondered how he performed so well. Because I know that a couple of minutes before those scenes, he was in a different zone. If you ask him to give a workshop on acting, he will shy away from it, but deep down, he knows something right about acting.

Dhoomam *releases in theatres on June 23*

Spaces of light and shadow

The Mind's Eye, a solo show of photographs by Santhosh Pai captures his dreamy and surreal view of the world

Mystic moments A photograph by Santhosh Pai (below). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ruth Dhanaraj
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There is a gradation to Santhosh Pai's life akin to the play of light and shadow seen in his work. Today he might be known for his photography, but Santhosh began his creative journey as a visual artist.

"I studied art informally under the guidance of artist Ramesh Rao in Udupi, even as I continued my education. I got into animation and I worked in that field for a couple of years before freelancing and working on illustrations," says Santhosh, who shuttles between Bengaluru and Udupi.

There was a time when Santhosh worked with NGOs, especially The Concerned for Working Children. "I worked on their publication for children and would also document some of their work. I travelled a lot on the job and most of the images in this exhibition are of different regions of Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Goa and the US."

Santhosh says his interest in photography stemmed from documenting places he hoped to capture on canvas later. "After a while my photos started looking like paintings in terms of composition; the eye of an artist was evident in the image," says Santhosh, who used to work with acrylic and watercolours.

Mind's Eye comprises around 22 photographs taken by Santhosh from 2010 and there is a repertoire of stories chronicling the images shot during his many travels from that time.

Santhosh says these limited editions of his photographs are numbered but not titled as "viewers should be able to take what they want from a work instead of being pushed into seeing them in a particular way."

The Mind's Eye by Santhosh Pai will be on display at the MKF Museum of Art till June 25

STEPOUT

Movement exploration

Attakkalari in association with Bangalore International Centre join will host a free open studio day on June 24 (3pm to 6 pm). Participants, aged 16 and above, can explore Attakkalari's contemporary movement practice, incorporating elements from dance, yoga, kalaripayattu, and Bharatanatyam. Join and experience training firsthand at Bangalore International Centre from 3pm to 6pm.

Tribute to a legend

Celebrate the 125th birth anniversary of peace activist Paul Robeson on June 24 (10.30am to 1.30pm) at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath. Activists, scholars, and musicians will gather to discuss India's role in the changing world order. Enjoy speeches by EP Menon and Uday Balakrishnan and performances by the Bangalore Musical Association. Join the All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation at Devaraj Urs Hall.

Cheers, jeers, and a Chhetri hat-trick

A despatch of the SAFF Championship India v Pakistan football match from the stands

Praveen Sudevan
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This time for India Fans at the India v Pakistan SAFF Championship match. MURALI KUMAR K

For an India v Pakistan cricket match, news anchors talk as if the country is going to war; social media will be a cesspool of cross-border namecalling; and people keep themselves free on that day to do their duty to the country. For the SAFF Cup India v Pakistan football match on Wednesday, however, there was hardly any of this nationwide hullabaloo. In India, it seems, the level of patriotism is directly proportional to the popularity of the sport.

The atmosphere at Sree Kanteerava Stadium on a rainy Wednesday evening was nevertheless lively. Anirudh Nair, attending his first-ever live football match in India, expressed his delight at the growing interest in the sport and the slight shift from cricket-dominated fandom. He relished the experience of being part of a passionate crowd.

For Tomthin Meitei, who had journeyed from Manipur, this match was a personal milestone. Despite living in Bengaluru for nearly six years and playing football with the ASC (Army Service Corps) team, he had never witnessed a game at the Kanteerava Stadium. He anticipated watching his favourite players, Udanta Singh and Sunil Chhetri, showcase their skills live on the field.

As the first half progressed, the rain intensified, but it did little to deter the passionate crowd from trickling into the stadium. What started as a less populated arena soon swelled to an approximately 80% capacity, with fervent supporters braving the downpour to witness the game. Cheers erupted from the stands as the Indian team entered the field, resonating with unwavering support. The crowd's voice echoed through the rain-soaked air, chanting "Chheeetri, cheeetri, cheeetri," a rhythmic tribute to skipper Sunil Chhetri. Another spirited chant, "Jhingalakadi galagalagala hoo ha hoo ha," celebrated the formidable defender Sandesh Jhingan. Amidst these chants, occasional boos reverberated when the Pakistani team fouled.

Though the contest was lopsided in India's favour (4-0), a few non-sporting dramas made the evening more eventful.

Just before halftime, a touchline scuffle ignited the stadium. Indian head coach Igor Stimac inadvertently impeded a Pakistan throw-in, leading to a swift escalation of tensions. Players from both sides rushed in, tempers flaring amidst the pouring rain. However, cooler heads, including Chhetri himself, intervened to restore calm. The match faced further disruption as three intruders breached the boundaries and invaded the pitch at separate intervals.

Amid this backdrop, Indian skipper Chhetri emerged as the man of the night; the rain-soaked field seemed to bend to his will as he capitalised on two penalty kicks and exploited an error by Pakistani goalkeeper Saqib Hanif.

As the contest drew to a close, drenched fans dispersed, carrying with them the memories of an eventful evening.

13th Year of Celebrating ASHADHI EKADASHI
An Evening of Abhangs - 'BOLAVA VITTHAL'
॥ पंचम निषाद ॥
बोलावा विठ्ठल
Ranjani Gayatri | Jayateerth Mevundi
Sun. 2 July 2023 | 5:30 pm onwards
Please be seated by 5:15 pm (Few Seats Reserved)
At Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Malleswaram, Bengaluru
Tickets : ₹1500, 1000 (Including GST), 500
Tickets are available on bookmyshow
Reliance Foundation
LIC HFL
LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD
Resonance Designs

INBRIEF

M.B. Patil to visit Delhi with road map for development

Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil said he would visit New Delhi in the first week of July with a road map for industrial development to meet various Union Ministers. Speaking to media persons in Vijayapura on Thursday, he said the roadmap would be ready by July 27 and after that, he would meet Union Ministers concerned. When asked about concerns raised by industry bodies about the recent hike in power tariff, he said he would discuss the matter with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Energy Minister K.J. George. Appealing to industrialists to cooperate, Mr. Patil said the hike was the decision of KERC, an independent body.

Kempe Gowda Jayanti to be organised in all taluks

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar directed authorities to observe Kempe Gowda Jayanti in all taluks. Mr. Shivakumar, who chaired a meeting to review the preparations for the birth anniversary of Bengaluru founder Kempe Gowda on Thursday, said the a State-level programme would be held on the occasion in Hassan. It may be noted that Kempe Gowda Jayanti is being observed on June 27. The Deputy Chief Minister particularly asked the BBMP to observe Jayanti in all the Assembly constituencies of the city from June 28 to July 5, depending upon the availability of local legislators. He also asked them to announce awards in the name of Kempe Gowda to 198 eminent personalities, one from each ward.

Parents cannot, even in their dreams, hope for facilities as per RTE Act in govt. schools: HC

Court orders survey of toilets after Education Department says only 38 schools lack toilets as against 464 as per its earlier data; terms as 'painful and shocking' the condition of some toilets

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday ordered a survey of toilets and drinking water facilities available in all government schools in the State, while terming as "disturbing" the attempt of the Education Department to "reduce" in the data provided the number of schools not having toilets to mere 38 from the earlier 464. The department had claimed that there was error in the earlier data of March 2023 due to non-compilation of data from all the schools.

The court termed as "painful and shocking" the pathetic condition of toilets in some government schools in north Karnataka based on photos presented by the department to show that there existed toilets.

The department had presented the photos of some toilets to show that the earlier data was erroneous.

Going by the present status of basic facilities in government schools, parents who send their children to these schools cannot, even in their distant dream, hope that their wards would get all facilities as per the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the court observed.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice M.G.S. Kamal made these observations while expressing anguish over the pathetic condition of the toilets in the photographs.

Toilets for namesake

"We can only say that what is called a toilet is only for namesake, that is four walls and a door...We can only say that no parent would like to send their ward to places with such pathetic toilets," the Bench observed.

Considering these aspects, the Bench said that a survey of toilets and drinking water in government schools was necessary and directed that the survey be conducted involving the secretaries of the Taluk Legal Services Authorities in every taluk. The secretaries will have to submit the survey report within three months to the court.

The Bench said that it will be necessary for the State government to make provision for allocation of fund in the Budget itself to fulfil objectives of the RTE Act, while refusing to except the government's statement that basic infrastructure in government schools would be provided depending on the availability of funds in the next five years.

"Unless such budgetary allocation of fund is made, in our opinion, no fruitful purpose would be served to provide infrastructure as per the mandate of the RTE Act within a stipulated period," the Bench said. Senior advocate and amicus curiae K.N. Phanindra in his report had recommended that proper allocation of fund is vital to provide these facilities in government schools.

Rice procurement: Muniyappa to meet Piyush Goyal today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Offering a ray of hope for the State that is keen to launch the Anna Bhagya scheme from July 1, a meeting between Union Commerce and Food Minister Piyush Goyal and Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Minister K.H. Muniyappa has been convened on Friday.

The decision comes a day after Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, during his meeting in Delhi, urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to speak to Mr. Goyal to ensure supply of rice for the scheme.

Sources said that Mr. Muniyappa will meet Mr. Goyal to explain Karnataka's requirement. Mr. Muniyappa had returned to Bengaluru on Thursday morning from Delhi, but will reach Delhi on time for the meeting scheduled on Friday morning, sources said. On Thursday, while Mr. Muniyappa and Mr. Siddaramaiah arrived in separate flights to Bengaluru, they met to discuss the issue, sources said.

Karnataka is keen to purchase rice for the Anna Bhagya scheme that entails an additional 5 kg rice per head in the BPL cardholding families in the State, over and above the 5 kg rice being supplied by the Centre. The FCI charges ₹36.6 per kg of rice, including ₹2.6 transportation cost, but has refused to supply the required 2.28 lakh tonne per month.

Following the refusal by FCI to supply rice, Karnataka' s search to find rice closer to the cost of FCI supply has not fructified. Rice procurement and transport from Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Punjab has been calculated to be more expensive than the FCI supply. The State is also looking to take quotation for supply of rice from agencies such as NAFED and NCCF, besides Kendriya Bhandar.

A source in the government said the government is likely to take a call on the launch of the scheme after getting quotes from States and agencies.

Ban on private practice by govt. doctors among recommendations made by ARC-II chief

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ban on private practice by all government doctors on the lines of Central government-run institutions, starting evening OPDs in government hospitals, appointment of special administrative officers in government hospitals, and utilising the services of MBBS doctors (who are on compulsory rural service) in urban areas too. These are some of the recommendations made by T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, head of the Administrative Reforms Commission-II.

Mr. Bhaskar, who met Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on Thursday, submitted a report on the recommended health reforms.

The Minister discussed the recommendations with the retired Chief Secretary and assured him that the report will be implemented in a phased manner. Some of the recommendations will be incorporated in this Budget, he said.

He said an amendment will be made to the existing law in the next legislative session to utilise the services of MBBS doctors, who are on compulsory rural service, in urban areas as well.

Directorate of nursing

The other recommendations include establishment of a Directorate of Nursing in the Health Department, allocation of additional 50 general beds in taluk hospitals with high-patient load, provision of funds to hospitals, Arogya Raksha Samitis to hire specialists on hourly basis in urban PHCs and these PHCs should also function in the evenings.

According to the commission's report, the Health Department should provide 50% subsidy to ANMs and male health workers to purchase electric two-wheelers for field work. "It is recommended that a nursing college have 20 seats of GNM or B.Sc nursing courses and paramedical courses with 10 paramedical seats in 100-bed capacity taluk hospitals. Besides, System Improvement Teams should be set up at the departmental level," it stated.

KMF wants to hike price of Nandini milk by ₹5 a litre

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

At ₹39 per litre, milk in Karnataka is among the cheapest in India.
FILE PHOTO

Less than a year after the price of Nandini milk was hiked by ₹2 per litre, the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) is preparing to seek a hike of ₹5 per litre.

While the proposal of KMF for a hike of ₹5 per litre was not accepted by the previous BJP government, it had allowed a hike of ₹2 in November 2022. The hike had not satisfied farmers, who are reeling under increased input cost, as well as the district milk unions that had sought a higher hike since milk procurement had come down drastically. At ₹39 per litre, milk in Karnataka is among the cheapest in India.

Bhima Naik, Congress leader and a close associate of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who took over as KMF chairman on Wednesday, said that the federation is under pressure from unions and farmers to increase the price. KMF will present a proposal to the State government. "In the coming days, KMF will provide more procurement cost than what is being offered by private dairies. Milk production had seen a dip after lumpy skin disease affected cattle, but production is improving."

Cooperation Minister K.N. Rajanna also hinted at a hike in milk price, and said that the issue will be taken up for discussion after the State Budget session. According to him, the daily procurement of milk in Karnataka by KMF is about 87 lakh litres, and the average procurement price offered to farmers is about ₹33 per litre. The Minister said, "When consumers pay for water, why can't they pay more for milk? We are here to safeguard the interest of milk producers. We will transfer 90% of profit to farmers."

While the cost of Nandini milk is less than the price of milk sold by private dairies, the cost of feed and fodder had gone up, he added.

Animal Husbandry Minister K. Venkatesh said that the milk price hike would be decided after consultations with the government.

Bengaluru Milk Union president Narasimha Murthy, who has been vocal about increasing the retail cost of milk for the past two years, said the previous hike had not helped farmers since milk procurement had not gone up substantially. "Bamul collected 19 lakh litres in peak of flush season in 2022. The procurement in 2023, that had touched 16 lakh litres a day, had dropped down to 15.75 lakh litres as on June 22. Farmers are not coming forward to increase production."

Guarantees: Experts suggest hiking entertainment tax, other measures to mop up revenue

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

As the Congress government in Karnataka has begun implementing its five guarantees promised in the party's poll manifesto, experts in different fields have suggested increasing the entertainment tax, much of which comes from the well-off, and increasing non-tax revenue, largely in the form of user charges for services, for meeting the expenditure.

The government has to mobilise additional revenue for the implementation of the five guarantees. It is estimated the government needs at least ₹60,000 crore a year for implementing the guarantees. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will present the State Budget next month.

Presently, Karnataka has 30% entertainment tax, which is low compared with that in large States such as Bihar (50%); Uttar Pradesh (60%), Maharashtra (45%). Even a 10% increase in entertainment tax will help the government to increase its revenue basket, argued economist R.S. Deshpande, former Minister and IIM-B professor B.K. Chandrashekar, and the former director of the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre V.S. Prakash. The government levies entertainment tax on commercial shows, movie tickets, sporting events, music festivals, amusement parks, exhibitions, theatre shows, and private fests.

Experts have also suggested an increase in non-tax revenue. The Fiscal Management Review Committee has noted that the non-tax revenue collection has not improved. In the Mid-term Fiscal Plan (2023-27), the committee suggested the Finance Department revise all major non-tax revenue sources, the user charges/fees for those services which have not been revised for many years. The State's own non-tax revenue is estimated at about ₹11,000 crore. The royalty from mines is estimated at ₹7,500 crore for 2023-24, an increase of 15% over revenue estimates of 2022-23.

Noting the 22% level of debt to GDSP, experts advised the government against borrowing to meet the expenditure on guarantees. The government's outstanding debt stands at ₹5,53,419 crore in the 2023-24 Budget or ₹4,97,978 crore as shown in the revised estimates of 2022-23.

Stamps and registration

They also suggested an increase in stamps and registration fees. Owing to COVID-19, the previous BJP government had provided a 10% rebate on guidance value in 2022. The revenue collection from the Stamps and Registration Department is estimated at ₹19,000 crore in 2023-24 as against collection of about ₹17,000 crore in 2022-23.

The State government's estimated revenue during 2023-24 was ₹2.25 lakh crore. Mr. Siddaramiah's view was that Karnataka would be capable of meeting the expenditure on guarantees because the State Budget presented by Mr. Bommai touched ₹3.1 lakh crore in 2023-24. "Every year, the Budget size grows by ₹25,000 crore. So, by the end of the five-year term, the Budget size will be ₹4.5 lakh crore. So, it is possible to implement the guarantees," he said.

Kalasa Banduri project on Mahadayi river: Tenders floated minutes before poll announcement may not have any takers

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A file photo of the Mahadayi river diversion project in Belagavi district.

Tenders floated for implementation of the controversial Kalasa Banduri scheme by the previous BJP government minutes before Karnataka Assembly elections were announced may run into rough weather as they were put out without obtaining forest and environment clearance.

The then BJP government opened the tenders for bidding around 11 a.m. on March 29, barely 20 minutes before polls were announced by the Election Commission of India. Sources in the Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited (KNNL) said the tenders were floated in anticipation of securing forest and environment clearance from the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFC). The tenders are open for bidding till August 21. The value of the tender for Banduri Nala is ₹542 crore and for Kalasa is ₹412 crore. The Kalasa-Banduri project aims to divert water from Mahadayi to satisfy the drinking water needs of Belagavi, Dharwad, Bagalkot, and Gadag districts in Karnataka. As per the plans, barrages are to be built on Kalasa and Banduri streams – tributaries of Mahadayi – and water diverted towards Karnataka's parched districts. Mahadayi originates in the Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary in Belagavi district of Karnataka, and flows into the Arabian Sea in Goa.

A few days ago, Goa and Maharashtra governments issued a joint statement saying that they will put up a united fight against Karnataka in connection with the water diversion project.

In November 2010, the UPA government at the Centre had set up a tribunal to settle disputes between Karnataka, Goa, and Maharashtra. In 2018, the tribunal awarded 13.42 tmcft water from Mahadayi river basin to Karnataka, 1.33 tmcft to Maharashtra, and 24 tmcft to Goa. The same was notified by the Union government in February 2020.

On clearance

A few weeks ago, the Karnataka government submitted a revised proposal to the National Wildlife Board and MoEFC in connection with the Mahadayi project, The government sought permission to divert 26.92 hectares of forest land for non-forest purposes.

Ashok Vasanada, Chief Engineer, KNNL, Dharwad, said the time period for bidding was extended till August as the government is yet to obtain the needed clearance from the Union government. KNNL is hopeful of securing permission.

Sources in the Congress, however, say that the tenders may have to be scrapped as the Union government may not give clearance with the Congress coming to power in Karnataka. If the Union government givers clearance, the Congress will get a boost ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Besides, BJP is heading the government in Goa and is in alliance with the Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena in Maharashtra; both will not allow the Centre to grant clearance.

Ashok Chandaragi, an activist who has been fighting for the project, said the Congress' failure to respond to the meeting of Goa and Maharashtra governments is an indication that these tenders will go down the drain. "Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar should respond to this development, and lead a delegation to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking clearance for the project. As the tenders are open, the government should put pressure on the Centre," he said.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

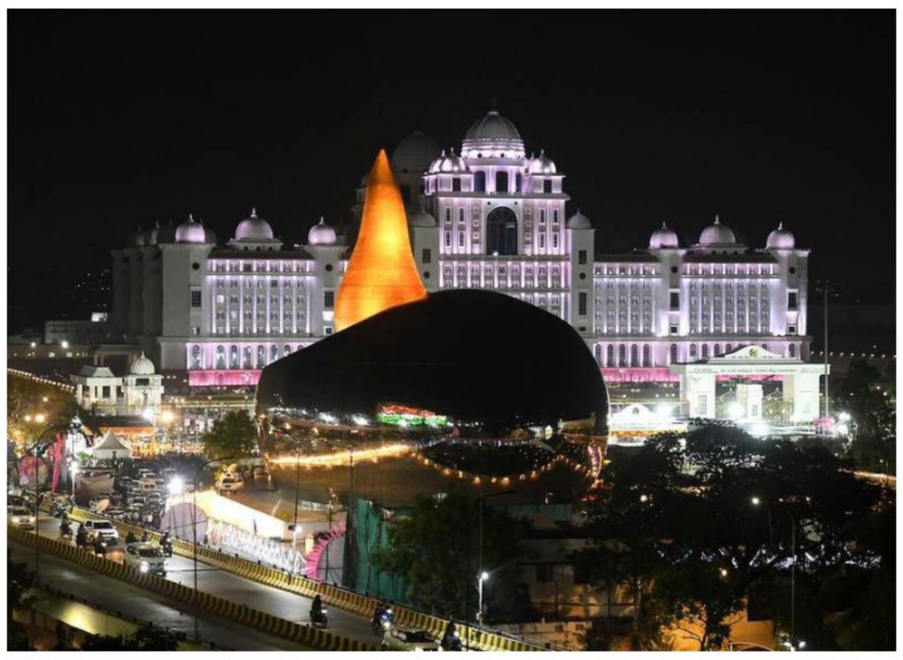
DEATH

OBITUARY

SOWMYA BEEDU
24 Apr 1979 to 22 Jun 2023

An Artist, Yoga Teacher, Writer, Poet, Musician, Amazing Daughter, Wife, Fantastic Mother, Friend and Host. Lived a life so bright with colours, health and happiness exuding confidence and Joie de vivre that God decided to bring her to the heavens earlier than planned.

In Grief: Shantha Rao
Deepak Rao Beedu
Hitesh Rao Beedu
Rithu Beedu
Beedu Family & Amaravian families



Brightly lit: Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao inaugurated the Telangana Martyrs Memorial in Hyderabad on Thursday. G. RAMAKRISHNA

Committed to fulfil wishes of people who died during statehood movement: Rao

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao has asserted that his government is committed to fulfilling the aspirations of martyrs who laid down their lives for the cause of separate Telangana.

He recalled how several youth sacrificed their lives during the statehood movement and said the government was firm on providing assistance to the families of the deceased. "We have provided assistance to around 600 to 700 families that lost their children in the statehood movement and are ready to help more such families," Mr. Rao said.

The Chief Minister was speaking after formally inaugurating the Telangana Martyrs Memorial – Telangana Amarajyoti – designed to keep the memories of those who laid down their lives for a separate Telangana afresh in the minds of people. "This is one of its kind in the country," he averred.

"We used resignations numerous times as a tool for achieving statehood to Telangana, but tried our best to see that violence did not creep into the agitation," he recalled adding it was however painful that youth ended their lives as part of the agitation.

The Chief Minister said no one imagined about the progress Telangana would make after becoming a separate State. Telangana was now leading the country in several aspects like per capita income, per capita power consumption and foodgrains production. "My government launched the Dalit Bandhu, one-time grant of ₹10 lakh to Dalit families to start their own entrepreneurial ventures," he recalled.

He thanked teachers, employees and all other sections of society for their active role in the separate statehood movement and said the government would draw inspiration from their struggles.

Certificate forgery case: ex-SFI leader remanded till July 6

Vidya says case against her was a fabricated one and political opponents have plotted against her; claims she does not need a bogus certificate

The Hindu Bureau
PALAKKAD

The Munsiff Magistrate Court at Mannarkkad in Kerala on Thursday remanded former Students Federation of India leader K. Vidya in judicial custody until July 6 in connection with a certificate forgery case.

Obliging to a police request, the court sent her in police custody for two days. The court will consider Ms. Vidya's bail application on Saturday.

When the prosecution complained that Ms. Vidya did not cooperate with it, her counsel argued that she had not been absconding and that she had been with a friend of hers. Ms. Vidya was arrested from her friend's house in Kozhikode on Wednesday.

Ms. Vidya's counsel said she would have appeared before the court had the police served a notice. While being taken away in a police vehicle, she said the case against her was a fabricated one and that political opponents had plotted against her. She claimed that she had excelled in her studies and she did not need a bogus certificate of experience.

The police slapped charges of forgery and cheating under Indian Penal Code Sections 465, 471, and 468 on her.

The complaint against Ms. Vidya was that she had produced two forged experience certificates while appearing for a guest teacher's post at RGM Government College, Agali, Attappady, on June 2. The fake certificates were made in the name of Maharaja's College, Ernakulam.

In the net: K. Vidya, former SFI leader at the First Class Magistrate Court in Mannarkkad on Thursday. K.K. MUSTAFAH

'Arrest delayed to destroy evidence'

The Hindu Bureau
KASARAGOD

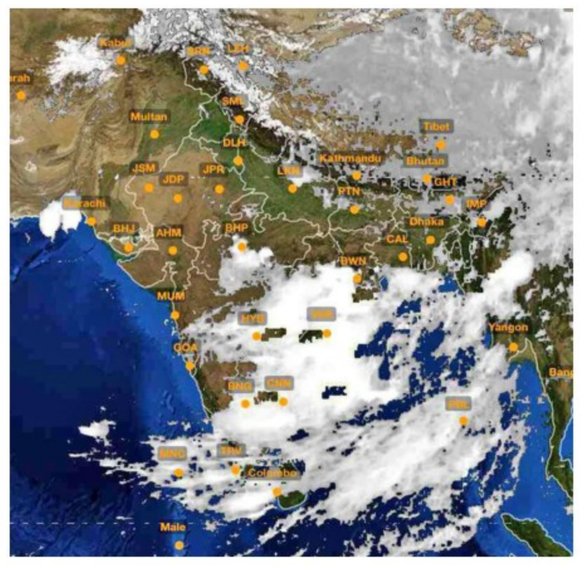
Senior Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala has accused the Kerala government of harbouring criminals in forged certificate cases.

Mr. Chennithala said the police took 15 days to arrest K. Vidya, the accused in a forged experience certificate case. The delay in arrest has provided ample time and opportunity to destroy the evidence, he alleged.

"The delay was deliberate and there is an intervention by the State government to help Ms. Vidya," he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Odisha and heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam and Telangana

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.0	26.9	Kozhikode	0.2	34.3	25.6
Ahmedabad	—	37.3	28.2	Kurnool	10	36.1	24.6
Aizawl	—	31.6	21.8	Lucknow	8	32.5	25.8
Allahabad	—	40.9	29.8	Madurai	—	39.2	25.6
Bengaluru	3	30.7	21.0	Mangaluru	6.4	30.6	23.0
Bhopal	—	—	26.0	Mumbai	—	34.5	28.6
Bhubaneswar	92.6	35.8	28.6	Mysuru	10	33.0	22.2
Chandigarh	3.2	37.2	28.7	New Delhi	2.4	37.5	27.6
Chennai	—	35.7	27.5	Patna	10	40.4	26.6
Coimbatore	—	33.5	23.8	Port Blair	—	30.6	26.7
Dehradun	11	33.8	25.4	Puducherry	—	34.7	25.9
Gangtok	32	22.0	17.7	Pune	—	35.9	24.1
Goa	—	33.2	26.9	Raipur	10.2	42.6	25.0
Guwahati	11	30.6	25.0	Ranchi	2	35.6	24.6
Hubballi	—	30.0	24.0	Shillong	21	20.4	18.4
Hyderabad	23	36.0	23.6	Shimla	—	24.1	18.9
Imphal	3	29.5	20.6	Srinagar	—	34.8	20.5
Jaipur	3	35.7	26.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.2	24.7
Kochi	8	30.8	24.4	Tiruchi	5	37.0	25.6
Kohima	1	23.0	18.3	Vijayawada	5	36.4	26.2
Kolkata	0.1	35.0	28.8	Visakhapatnam	12	32.4	24.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	13	5	123	132	
Bengaluru	6	8	31	69	86	
Chennai	3	85	88	86	79	
Delhi	9	27	28	103	129	
Hyderabad	23	13	55	55	74	
Kolkata	38	51	20	29	45	
Lucknow	7	20	53	27	30	
Mumbai	59	—	57	30	344	
Pune	123	189	113	65	58	
Visakhapatnam	11	51	34	65	101	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 245 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

3 leopards found dead in Bandipur buffer zone

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

One leopard and two leopardesses were found dead in the Bandipur buffer area on Thursday; of them, one was found to be poisoned and the others died in territorial fights.

In the first case, a leopardess was found dead on a private farm in the buffer zone of Bandipur National Park near Kathanur in Gundlupet taluk. The Forest Department staff reached the place where the carcass of the leopardess was reported and began questioning the local people. It transpired that the watchman of the farm, Ramesh, had laced insecticide and pesticide on the dog's carcass.

Post-mortem indicated that the leopardess was around three years old. The accused, Ramesh, was taken into custody and produced before the court which remanded him in judicial custody.

The Forest Department personnel incinerated the carcass of the leopardess as per NTCA protocols in the presence of NGO representatives, and senior forest officials.

In an unrelated development, two other animals were found dead owing to injuries in a territorial fight. While one leopard died in Kanniyanapura village and was a five-year-old male, a three-year-old leopardess had died near Mangala village, according to Mr. Ramesh Kumar.

Congress observes Deceit Day in Telangana; several persons arrested

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Responding to the call given by Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president A. Revanth Reddy, Congress workers across the State observed Deceit Day on Thursday, accusing the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government of cheating people on several fronts. Several Congress leaders were kept under house arrest by the police across Telangana thereby preventing them from participating in the protest. Criticising the arrest of party leaders, Mr. Revanth Reddy said this was nothing but anti-democratic.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RWS&S DIVISION, BALASORE
Tel: 06782-262249, Fax: 262931, email: eerwss_bls@nic.in, eerwssbls@gmail.com
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Tendering
Identification No. 09/2023-24 Dt. 21.06.2023

The Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Balasore on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites bids from bidders of eligible class registered with the Odisha State Government and bidders of equivalent Grade / Class registered with Central Government / MES / Railways for the works detailed in the table below to be eventually drawn up in P1 contract with design and execution of the following Piped Water Supply Projects.

1. Nos. of Work	:	RPWS Scheme to Bireshpur & adj. villages under Jaleswar block of Balasore district.
2. Estimated cost	:	Rs.269.76 lakhs
3. Period of completion	:	330 days
4. Availability of bid document in Portal	:	Dt.28.06.2023 at 10.00 hours to 12.07.2023 up to 17.00 hours through online.
5. Seeking of Clarification	:	Dt.01.07.2023 at 10.00 hours to Dt.07.07.2023 upto 15.00 hours.
6. Date of opening of Bid	:	Dt.13.07.2023 at 11.00 hours in the O/O EE, RWSS Division, Balasore.
7. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Tender.	:	Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Balasore

Bid Cost will be receipt through electronic payment by NEFT/RTGS.
Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal : http://tendersodisha.gov.in
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RWS&S DIVISION, BALASORE.
O-253 : OIPR-25013/11/0004/2324

CHILIKA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A Govt. of Odisha Agency)
Plot No.493(P), Pallaspalli, Pokhariput Road, Bhubaneswar - 751020
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
RE-TENDER NOTICE (No.1307/CDA/2023) Dated 17th June 2023

Sealed Expression of Interest are invited by the undersigned from the reputed Government organisation/ Government undertaking for the work "Consultancy proposal for preparation of Tender Document & Tender Schedule including evaluation of Bids and Pre & Post dredging survey for the Desiltation work in Chilika lake". The organisation can only participate if they are having adequate experience in this type of work atleast for a period of 5 years in "Computation of desiltation work" in India in marine / brackish ecosystems .
The interested organisations may participate by giving two packets separately sealed i.e. **'Technical Bid' & 'Price Bid'.**
The E.O.I. as mentioned above should reach in the office of the undersigned on or before **7th of July 2023 upto 5.00 P.M.** and which will be opened on **10th of July 2023 at 11.30 A.M.** in the O/o the Chief Executive, Chilika Development Authority, Bhubaneswar. The detail of Terms of Reference will be made available in the website of Chilika Development Authority **(i.e. www.chilika.com)** from **23rd June 2023 to 7th July 2023 upto 5.00 P.M.**
Sd/-. ADDL.CHIEF EXECUTIVE, CHILIKA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CAD-1023: OIPR-08138/11/0005/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BOLANGIR.
e - Procurement NOTICE

1.	Name of Work	:	Construction of road under CMRL in the district of Bolangir for the year 2023-24
2.	No. of Work	:	7 (Seven) road Works.
3.	Time for Completion	:	6 (Six) calendar months
4.	Approximate Estimated Cost varies from	:	Rs.113.54 lakhs to Rs.698.29 lakhs
5.	Mode of Submission of tender	:	Tender should be submitted online in www.tendersodisha.gov.in
6.	Other details are as follow		

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Bolangir.	BLGR-Online-05/2023-24	28.06.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	13.07.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.	12.07.2023 upto 5.00 P.M.	14.07.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	The date will be intimated to the technically qualified bidders later on

- Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
- Any Corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above e tender website only.

Sd/- D.K.Seth, **Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Bolangir**
O-246 : OIPR-25118/11/0006/2324

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
CHIKKABALLAPURA
website:www.chikkaballapurcity.gov.in Ph:08156-275557
E-mail:itstaff_ulb_chikkaballapur@yahoo.co.in Fax:08156-274742
No.CMCC/HS/CR/05/2023-24 Date:15.06.2023
E- PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Chikkaballapura invites Tenders (e-procurement – 2.0) as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act **2000,** from eligible registered Contractors for implementation of mentioned below mentioned work under S.B.M. – 2.0. It is requested to submit Application through website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be viewed in **www.chikkaballapurcity.mrc.gov.in (1)** Last date for submission of objections/further details regarding the Tender: **22.06.2023** up to **11.00 AM, (2)** Last date for submission of filled tenders through website:**17.07.2023** up to **5.30 PM**, **(3)** Date of opening the Technical Bid:**19.07.2023** at **11.00** AM, **(4)** Date of opening the Financial Bid: **20.07.2023** at **3.00** PM, If the above mentioned dates are declared as public holidays, then the next days will be considered. **(1)** Name of work: Processing and Disposal of Legacy Waste at Survey No.9 Puttathimmanahalli Village, Chikkaballapur Taluk of City Municipal Council Chikkaballapur as per Central Pollution Control Board Guidelines.DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT140, Approx Amount of Work **Rs.358.76,** in Lakhs, E.M.D Amount **Rs.5,38,200/-** , Class of Eligible Contractors:Registered, Eligible Contractors, Time Period fixed for completion of work:**9.83** Months.

Sd/-
Administrator and
Deputy Commissioner
Chikkaballapura District

Sd/-
Municipal Commissioner
City Municipal Conuncil
Chikkaballapura

DIPR/CHIKKABALLAPUR/R.O.No.13/KSMC&A/2023-24

ಪುರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಕಳ
ಕಾರ್ಕಳ–574104, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KARKALA, UDUPI DIST.
Website: www.karkalatown.gov.in, E-mail: itstaff_ulb_karkala@yahoo.co.in, tmckarkala@yahoo.co.in Ph: 08258 - 230292, Fax: 08258 - 235664
ಸಂ:ಪು.ಸ.ಕಾ/ಪ.ಫ.ನಿ/ಸಿಆರ್/15/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.06.2023

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ ಮಿಷನ್ 2.0 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000 ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ Karnataka Standard Tender Document-KW-4 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ವಿವರ	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ
1	ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಕರಿಯಕಲ್ಲು ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಸ್ತು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಘಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರಂಪರಿಕ ತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ (Legacy Waste) ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ (DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT374)	186.83	280245

1. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ 05/07/2023ರಂದು ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಸ್ಥಳ ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕಾರ್ಕಳ.
2. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07/07/2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ.
3. ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10/07/2023 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ. ಸದರಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ ರಜಾ ದಿನವೆಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಸಹಿ/–, ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಕಾರ್ಕಳ ಸಹಿ/–, ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಕಾರ್ಕಳ

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation | ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C)
IDCO, IDCO TOWER, BHUBANESWAR
Tender Call Notice No File No.: HO/P&C/EST/E-2310/04/2023 19266 Dated : 21.06.2023
NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH e-Procurement

Name of the Work : SITC of LED Streetlights from Gita College entry point to Infosys Campus, Supply and Installation of 02 (Two) nos of 25kVA, 11/0.4 kV Substation for power supply to streetlight at Infocity-II, Janla, Khordha.
Estimated Cost put to tender : Rs. 86,30,892.00
Period of Completion : 01 (One) Calendar Month.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding From	To
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Tower, Bhubaneswar.	Bid Identification No.:- P&C/EST/E-44/2023-24	17.00 Hours of dt. 26.06.2023	17.00 Hours of dt.10.07.2023

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal, www.Tendersodisha.gov.in and Corrigendum if any will be published in newspapers and can only be seen in the e-Procurement portal as well as in IDCO Website .
Sd/- Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, Bhubaneswar
CAD-1029: OIPR-14003/11/0085/2324

Unedifying row

Shadow of poll violence justifies court orders on central forces in West Bengal

The controversy in West Bengal in the matter of deployment of central paramilitary forces ahead of the panchayat elections to be held on July 8 is quite unedifying. The State Election Commission (SEC) initially appeared reluctant to heed calls by Opposition parties to bring in central forces to boost security arrangements. A perceived delay in identifying sensitive areas resulted in the Calcutta High Court ordering the poll body to ask for and deploy central forces. In the ordinary course, the deployment of central forces during local body elections, conducted under the watch of the SEC, would be at the State government's discretion. However, it is an unfortunate reality that West Bengal frequently witnesses poll-related violence. Even in the current poll process, eight people have died, and there are reports of prospective candidates being prevented from filing their nominations for some panchayats. In these circumstances, it would have been in the fitness of things for the SEC to requisition central forces on its own, even if the State government had some grievance over its discretion being overruled by the High Court order. However, the SEC, which ought to have had no misgivings about it, joined the government in approaching the Supreme Court of India against the order. The Court affirmed the High Court's directives, noting that the core issue was free and fair elections. Moreover, the whole State was going to vote on a single day for nearly 74,000 seats, and that given the high number of seats and polling booths, the directions were justified.

In yet another unfortunate turn, the SEC responded to the apex court's order by requisitioning central forces in 22 districts (one company each), in a move that showed pique and resentment rather than compliance. The High Court has once again intervened, noting that the requisitioned number was thoroughly inadequate and directed that more forces, not less than the size of the forces used during the 2013 panchayat polls be sought, when as many as 1.05 lakh police personnel and 82,000 central personnel were deployed. The controversy flags the issue of political violence, which is quite endemic to West Bengal. Each election sets off a round of violence and demands for central forces. The federal principle that law and order is under the State's domain is often strained and tested at such times. The High Court had ordered a CBI investigation into incidents of serious violence after the last Assembly election in 2021. A truly independent election watchdog and a sense of responsibility among all political parties are necessary to preserve the purity of the election process.

Spiralling violence

Without a freeze on Israeli settlements, violence in West Bank will continue

An Israeli raid in Jenin with combat helicopters that killed seven Palestinians; a gun attack by two Palestinians at an Israeli settlement in Eli that killed four; and a rampage of an Arab village by Israeli settlers in which one Palestinian was killed and several others injured – the occupied West Bank witnessed a sharp escalation in violence this week that is reminiscent of the waves of attacks and counter-attacks during the second Intifada. As Israel tightens its grip over the West Bank, where Jewish settlements have gradually mushroomed, new, local Palestinian resistance groups such as the Jenin Brigade have emerged, carrying out attacks on Israeli soldiers and settlers using home-made weapons and low-tech bombs. Jenin, in the northern West Bank, has emerged as a hotbed of violent Palestinian resistance. Israel carries out raids in the region almost on a daily basis, causing casualties on the Palestinian side. According to the UN, Israel has killed at least 114 Palestinians, including civilians and militants, this year (as of June 12) in the West Bank, while at least 19 Israelis have fallen to Palestinian attacks. Tuesday's raid was carried out a day after the Israeli cabinet approved plans to build new settlements in the West Bank. After the Eli attack by Palestinian gunmen, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced plans to build 1,000 new settler homes.

The West Bank has been burning for quite some time. Israel, which has established checkpoints that criss-cross the occupied territories, has managed to prevent, so far, the rise of another organised resistance after the second Intifada even while deepening the occupation. As hopes for a political solution waned, Palestinians began launching isolated, often suicidal, knife attacks against Israeli soldiers (in what some call the 'knife intifada'). But in the latest phase of violence, local Palestinian groups are carrying out bigger attacks and in retaliation, Israel would rain fire on Palestinian villages and demolish the houses of the attackers, with impunity. The Palestinians are divided, with Fatah controlling the West Bank and Islamist Hamas ruling Gaza. The Arab world, which once supported the Palestinian aspiration for nationhood, is now focused on improving ties with Israel. The U.S. and Europe, who are sending billions of dollars and some of their most advanced weapons to Ukraine to help it fight Russia, hardly raise a voice when Israeli troops are killing Palestinians in the occupied territories every day. The status quo in the West Bank and Gaza (blockaded by Israel for over a decade) is a recipe for disaster. Unless there are genuine efforts to freeze the Israeli settlements and open a dialogue between the two sides, the cycle of violence will continue endlessly.

An organised counter to organised hate

Pushparaj Deshpande

is the Director of the Samruddha Bharat Foundation and the series editor of the 'Rethinking India' series

The communal disturbances in Maharashtra, the performative religiosity in the new Parliament's inauguration and The Kerala Story are all intrinsic to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-Bharatiya Janata Party (RSS-BJP)'s larger cultural war. Vitiating mass consciousness, such issues typically pit Hindus against Muslims, elite establishmentarians against grounded 'nationalists' and constitutional values against 'traditional' values. Despite this war's profound impact on India's social fabric, little attention has been devoted to analysing why atavistic tendencies acquire a social base. If most Indians live by the Ganga-Jamuni *tehzeeb*, nothing could make them communal, xenophobic, casteist, patriarchal or racist. Yet, studies show that India has become radicalised and socially conservative. To reverse the flames engulfing India (and other nations, as reports suggest in the context of the Leicester riots), dissecting the black box of hate is critical.

The anatomy of organised hate

There are broadly three types of hatred today – organised, inherited and absorbed hate. The first is methodically spearheaded by organisations like the RSS-BJP, invariably for partisan ends. Inherited hate is generationally passed down (usually caste, communal and gender prejudices), which is fertile soil for the champions of organised hate. Finally, absorbed hate is a disease afflicting the silent majority. The Sangh Parivar systematically targets both these constituencies, for short-term goals (influencing voting behaviour, consensus on key issues and fundraising) and to convert permanently.

Progressive forces invariably counter the visible champions of organised hate, including party spokespersons, aligned influencers and organisations, as well as troll armies. They also resort to debunking misinformation or cornering regressive stances/action. Unfortunately, the RSS-BJP cannot be shamed, for they are unhinged from constitutional or institutional norms. Furthermore, their propaganda is complemented by a vast network of socio-cultural and religious organisations that subterraneanly spearhead ideological projects. In stark contrast, by striving only to shape public discourse, progressives put the onus of psychological consonance on the people. They assume that people will organically be swayed to progressive positions. Both empirical and anecdotal evidence suggests that this tactic is failing. Moreover, this strategy inadvertently oxygenates those historical-cultural issues that the Sangh deploys to frame every state policy and election as an existential war.

Unfortunately, there is no organised programmatic counter to hatred today. Bulldozers raze brazenly, mobs lynch with impunity, processions/films disrupt harmony and economic boycotts are organised with tactical precision, while the State maintains a studied indifference. Sadly, progressive parties avoid interventions against the forces of hate, as Karnataka's Bajrang Dal and Maharashtra's Kolhapur episodes suggest. This is partly because the Sangh can easily instigate retaliatory conflagrations, that invariably benefit the BJP electorally. However, given the BJP's insatiable electoral greed, it is near-impossible for progressive parties to limit the impact area of any disturbance. But there are also structural reasons for this programmatic inertia. Most parties do not plan and execute programmes on ideological issues, remaining excessively dependent on the State. They have forgotten the Congress movement's lessons, which functioned independently of state machineries.

> There needs to be an inspiring alternative agenda that enthuses India and which can move the silent majority away from the climate of hate

Structurally combating hate

Whole communities have shrivelled in the face of the hatred engulfing India. Given this, there are both moral and pragmatic considerations to frontally tackle the fear that breeds regressive attitudes. First, we progressives need to acknowledge pre-existing societal fears of losing out on economic and political opportunities, and redress them. Not doing so enables the BJP to exploit those faultlines. For example, even though unemployment is a national problem, in the absence of a comprehensive strategy from progressives, the BJP successfully spins mass unemployment as a consequence of Muslim over-population (that is, jobs meant for Hindus are being 'stolen' by Muslims). Similarly, shrinking public sector jobs and educational opportunities are cynically blamed on reservations (indirectly holding Dalits, Adivasis and backward communities responsible), and not on the fire sale of public sector assets or on policies that make education inaccessible. Given this, progressives need to carefully assuage such fears. A first step could be posing an inspiring alternative agenda that enthuses India. Only then can we wean away the silent majority from the claws of hatred.

But progressive parties also need to put boots on the ground. In that spirit, they must actively collaborate with civil society, which transcends electoral exigencies. Serving as a complementary system, this could become both a response mechanism to conflagrations, and a network of progressive ideological projects. This would facilitate the forging of fresh relationships with new constituencies. One such constituency must be religious leaders/organisations, which progressives inexplicably avoid (thereby giving the RSS-BJP a blank cheque to assert that they represent all Hindus). Such a system would undoubtedly delegitimise atavistic causes.

Furthermore, progressive parties can substantively constrict regressive activities when in office, as the recently elected Karnataka government is doing. Just to cite some obvious examples, organisations frequently showcase movies to vitiate public discourse, conduct processions and *sansads* to disrupt the peace. While states can ban such organisations, this is only a stopgap since they invariably remerge in a new avatar. A more sustainable solution would be to spearhead out-of-the-box solutions that include *shanti senas* inculcating societal harmony, promoting films that espouse liberal, secular and democratic values, aggressively disseminating a constitutional narrative through alternative media, and ideological projects.

Fourth, progressives also need to check benefactors of regressive causes. A conflagration is sometimes a smokescreen to promote narrow economic interests. For example, the attack on abattoirs was both ideologically motivated and backed by economic competitors. Similarly, select diaspora groups support regressive projects for preferential treatment in commercial ventures in India. Mapping this financial infrastructure of hate would enable targeted counters using state instruments. A body blow can be delivered if the taps that empower regressive organisations can be closed. But this would need to be complemented by also addressing the non-partisan concerns of interest groups, *satyagrahas* against benefactors (who can be shamed), ensuring foreign funding does not foment hatred in India (which the compliance rules of most nations prohibit), and organised legal retribution.

Ideological and political commitment

India does not deserve ideological malleability or unprincipled politics (as witnessed during the Delhi riots in 2020). In this context, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's spirited fight against communalism offers a toolkit. Apart from making it a central theme in the 1951-52 general election, he tirelessly campaigned against hatred through public/parliamentary speeches, radio broadcasts, as well as letters to Chief Ministers and party units. Urging the Congress Party to "live up to our ideals and declarations" and "not let India be slaughtered at the altar of bigotry", he ensured the party "(fought) it in houses, in fields and in market places... (and) in the council chambers and the streets" (Letters to Chief Ministers, Volume 1, pp 479 and 487; and Jawaharlal Nehru's speeches, Vol. 2, p.175). Today, more than ever, India needs an organised, programmatic and political counter to hate. We do not have the luxury to wait for an organic mass psychological realignment. The only question is: can we transcend narrow interests, and work collaboratively in the national interest?

A doorway to an entrepreneurial university

K. Ramachandran

is a former journalist, and now heads strategy for an edtech company

New knowledge is always the result of interactions between disparate or competing disciplines. Whenever diverse players from different endeavours come together, institutions and organisations make gains because these joint ventures lead to the creation of a whole new body/ bodies of knowledge.

University systems have always seen this. The modern university system, which is a result of large efforts to institutionalise and scale up research and study in many disciplines, keeps evolving.

Over the years, multidisciplinary studies have seen new disciplines such as biochemistry and computing science, which in turn are spawning dozens of new sub-disciplines including the current rage, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI.

While the modern university system has accelerated the growth and the rise of new disciplines across the globe, innovations that bring together academic and industrial research work are creating economic and intellectual value for universities.

A new phase

This joint enterprise of academia and industry, for creating innovations that lead to new products, services, platforms and patents, is entering a new phase. This brings us to the next possible evolution of universities, namely, the entrepreneurial university. Of course, this is a provocative idea. One school of academia maintains that universities should be the fount of new knowledge and research, and any attempt at a commercialisation of this vision should not be allowed. But, globally, the thinking among new-age universities, and 'educational entrepreneurs' is to ensure a fine balance between education and enterprise, where learners pay an optimal price of attaining knowledge, gaining employable skills, or pursuing serious research.

While we need not get into a debate among these competing ideas, there is a definite need to create instruments and pathways that foster research and lead to a commercialisation of research output, so that the university system can capitalise the intellectual value of a new product or processes.

> The University Grants Commission's move to institutionalise the concept of a 'Professor of Practice' could help bridge the gap between academia and the professional world

The UGC's push

In India, the University Grants Commission (UGC)'s initiative to institutionalise the concept of 'Professor of Practice' is perhaps a right pointer towards an entrepreneurial university.

The UGC's move clearly shows how universities are best positioned to foster innovation, simply because of the flow of new sets of bright minds every year, seeking to push the frontiers of knowledge further.

The UGC has said: "The objective behind introducing [the] Professor of Practice (PoP) is to enhance the quality of higher education by bringing practitioners, policymakers, skilled professionals, etc. into [the] higher education system."

The initiative wants to bring industry and other professional expertise into academic institutions through a new category of positions viz. PoP. This will help take real world practices and experiences into classrooms and also augment faculty resources in higher education institutions. In turn, industry and society will benefit from trained graduates who are equipped with the relevant skills.

A PoP is typically an individual with significant experience in their industry, appointed to a faculty position at a university to share his/her practical knowledge and skills with students. Unlike traditional academic professors, PoPs are often hired from outside academia, and may not be required to have a PhD or other advanced research degree. Based on their expertise and experience in a specific profession or industry, they are expected to bring real-world insights and perspectives to the classroom. PoPs can be found in fields that include business, engineering, law, journalism, and the arts.

In the field of engineering, for example, a PoP can teach courses that focus on practical, real-world applications and share their insights in applied learning. They can serve as mentors for student projects; develop new courses that are more aligned to industry trends; collaborate with other faculty on research projects and point to ways of converting patents into commercial products (which they do regularly in the industry).

Innovation is the next pillar

PoPs can serve as ambassadors for their universities, building relationships with industry partners and helping to connect students with internship and job opportunities. They can also participate in professional organisations and conferences to stay up-to-date on industry trends and best practices. Thus, PoPs can reshape a university's commercial thinking and energise the actions that add vividity to a university's culture. Teaching and research were the foundational pillars of a university in the industrial era. In today's post-knowledge societies, innovation is the third pillar in universities. This should also be a continuous activity.

When this innovative culture sets in strongly, every academic will be able to synthesise ideas and spin out start-up enterprises. These university-based start-ups would not only incubate ideas but also convert ideas into patents and transform patents into commercial products. The more such ideas grow, the better the idea of an entrepreneurial university gains ground. Its fruition would be a full convergence of research, industry work and academia. The sum of this coalition will be much more than the individual parts.

Perhaps, one day, PoPs will lead to a new generation of 'entrepreneurs in residence', showing the way for bright students to create the next Google on campus.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mental health

It is a fact that the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the mental health problem in the country, which has also led to a significant increase in the number of cases of depression. Mental health issues have long been equated with psychotic disorders (Editorial page, "Spare a thought for psychiatric caregivers too", June 22). A way forward is initiating a sustained conversation on mental health in language that is understandable — one that is 'inclusive'. Mental health issues, if experienced by an individual, need to be mainstreamed.
Perhaps, social reformation and national-level campaigns on mental health can go a long way in addressing the subject.
R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Unreserved rail travel

The plans for better travel amenities for passengers in unreserved coaches are heartening.
Unreserved travel in cramped coaches does make a journey a depressing struggle, especially when safety and hygiene are issues. It is good that passengers in this segment will be 'treated' in a much better and dignified manner.
But the elephant in the room, overcrowding, still needs to be addressed for all to have a safe and a comfortable journey.
Janani Parvathy J.,
Bengaluru

Given that there is much patronage of travel in unreserved coaches, especially when certain circumstances warrant travel in general compartments, the provision for affordable food and drink near these compartments and other steps to make travel fairly comfortable are a novel move by the Indian Railways. Perhaps a dreadful journey may no longer be a nightmare.
Shiju Thalikunju,
Secunderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Can a shorter medical course solve rural doctor shortages?

Dr. Sudha Seshayyan

is former Vice Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr MGR Medical University

Dr. Soham D. Bhaduri

is Health Policy and Leadership Specialist; Editor-in-Chief, The Indian Practitioner

PARLEY

Last month, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee asked the Health Department to consider starting a three-year diploma course for medical practitioners, who would then serve in primary health centres (PHCs). This is not the first time that such a proposal has been considered in the country. India has nearly 1 lakh MBBS seats, but there continues to be a massive shortage of doctors in rural areas. Will a shorter course help bring in more medical professionals to serve where they are needed or will it erode the structure of medical education? Sudha Seshayyan and Soham D. Bhaduri discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Zubeda Hamid**. Edited excerpts:

What do you think of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's proposal?

Sudha Seshayyan: I don't think this is a good idea at this point. One, the diploma course may not train trainees adequately to deal with the conditions in rural areas. We tend to think that since there are not many doctors in rural areas, we could send in people who spend less years in training. But rural areas may not have adequate facilities, infrastructure, or transport. If these trainees are left to deal with an emergency or a critical care situation, will they be able to do that? Two, in the future, what will be their status? [However,] we do have paramedical staff like physician assistants. Maybe they can be trained better to deal with emergencies and then [we can] transport the patient or move in doctors [where needed]. That would be a better idea than this three-year diploma.

Soham Bhaduri: There exists a general aversion among professional doctors to practice in rural areas. It's not just about how many doctors we produce, but how we get them there (rural areas). That entails costs to recruit doctors, to retain them, and to take into consideration the turnover. In West Bengal, the number of doctors per 10,000 population is below the national average. So, it makes sense to drive a cadre of doctors who are capable of providing first-level care to the rural countryside, if not of handling critical situations. The proposal for PHCs is a bit askew: PHCs are the most essential rung of the healthcare infrastructure and should possess doctors who are fully trained. But we can consider mid-level healthcare providers who function in sub centres, a rung below PHCs. The recent National Medical Commission (NMC) Act [also] makes a provision for community health officers.

A health camp at Demuduvalasa village of Dumbriguda mandal in Visakhapatnam district. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SS: I agree; we could think of a mid-level healthcare professional who can deal with the immediate situation and [then] try and transport either the patient or the appropriate medical facility (equipment). And it does cost to get full-fledged doctors to rural areas, but that should not prevent the government from doing this, [for] healthcare is a basic amenity.

Is this a discriminatory move, because we are then providing less qualified practitioners for rural populations and more qualified practitioners for urban settings?

SS: Yes, it becomes discriminatory. Health awareness among the rural population is not very good. Many may not have the means or resources to get the medicines [they need]. In such situations, [if] you have somebody who is a little less qualified, just because you want to think that everyone is [being] given appropriate medical attention, it's not a fair deal at all.

SB: There are two perspectives. One, the entire range of healthcare professionals who serve at sub centres have a crucial role to play in ensuring continuity of care. The ASHA cadres have played a tremendous role in improving health awareness. Second, we need to differentiate between fiscal realities and fiscal ideals. The State has a prime responsibility in ensuring that everybody gets the highest attainable quality of care. But the realities on the ground preclude us from choosing between perfection and any solution at all.

On the discrimination point: if you say we don't have the perfect solution on the horizon, and you don't do anything at all, that engenders an even bigger discrimination.

SS: There can be never an ideal solution. There needs to be some kind of an interim arrangement when there are not enough fully qualified doctors. But calling [such] a course the equivalent of a full-fledged medical degree [is not correct]. Think of these rural medical practitioners in the future: at some point, there will be academic discrimination. We've had, if you go back to history, the Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery and so on. But we are at a point where we cannot afford to have differentiated degrees. That apart, we need to bring in a system where we make our full-fledged medical graduates realise their social obligations. We do have adequate medical graduates, but we have to take steps to motivate them to go to rural areas.

> We have adequate medical graduates, but we have to take steps to motivate them to go to rural areas.
> **SUDHA SESHAYYAN**

Are compulsory rural postings helping in this regard?

SB: On attracting doctors to rural areas, we have tried a lot of means over the years. There [have] to be hard incentives, and even incentives have failed. The NMC recently proposed that it wishes to do away with the bonded service. This may not be a good option because in settings that are already deprived of doctors, the marginal gains that arise from having doctors through bonded rural service are higher. We should be looking at ways to recruit more doctors into rural areas rather than retaining them, because recruiting practitioners and retaining them are two different ballgames. To retain them in rural areas is not going to be possible for at least 30-40 years because ultimately, rural doctor shortage is a development problem.

SS: I've been a medical teacher for many years. I've noticed that [graduates] do not want rural service as they are a little scared they will get stuck there for ages. So, we have to create a system where there is a continuous chain of doctors in rural areas: somebody comes in, maybe serves for two or three years, and then gets out. Several systems of motivation have been tried but have not worked out. But we cannot just say, 'Okay, we failed' and leave it [at that]. You don't create an alternative cadre of doctors just because regular doctors don't want to go to rural areas: that's acknowledging that full-fledged doctor need not go to rural areas. That would increase the problem [and] would create a larger divide. If we are trying to say our rural population will not get sufficient health care primarily because they are in the rural areas, we are defeating the goals of democracy.

SB: If you look at the short-term courses across developed and developing countries, they provide care of a quality that is largely equivalent to [that of] doctors. So, the accusation that rural and urban areas are being held up to two different standards of care, at least at the sub centre level, would not apply. So, mid-level practitioners at the sub centre level is, I believe, a very important requirement today.

There is a wide disparity in the spread of our medical colleges. Does this need to be tackled to address rural shortages?

SS: The density of medical colleges in certain areas is high, while in certain other areas it's low. But apart from increasing the number of medical seats, maybe we are not [teaching medical graduates] the right kind of medical ethics. We've had situations where medical graduates compare themselves to engineering graduates and say. 'if they earn at the end of four years, we need that too'. You cannot sacrifice your training for the sake of a job. We may have adequate numbers (of colleges), but density-wise, we'll have to do something to redistribute them, or maybe increase numbers in areas where there is low density.

SB: Medical college distributions follow the general iniquity patterns in India: most medical colleges are concentrated in the southern States and some in forward States like Maharashtra and Gujarat. What exacerbates these patterns is that about 85% of the seats are reserved for candidates from within those States. So, it's an important policy question for us to address. I don't think purely private investments will be able to deal with it; it's going to be government investments. As we see over the last decade, government medical colleges have shown a remarkable increase in numbers. We have good examples from other countries. For example, Myanmar redistributed nursing colleges to decentralise nursing education from Yangon. It has shown great improvement not just in terms of redistributing medical colleges and having representation across provinces, but also in terms of rural retention, because much more than incentives, pecuniary or intangible, recruiting doctors from rural areas and placing them there is one of the evidence-based solutions to improve rural retention.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The challenges of reporting on an ethnic conflict

The crisis in Manipur shows how journalism can become a casualty

Vijaita Singh

In 2018, while covering an incident of communal violence in Uttar Pradesh, I visited the house of one of the affected families. The building had been ransacked and set on fire. It was clear that the family had rushed out before a meal in fear: a plate of partly kneaded dough, half-cooked dal, and chopped vegetables lay on their kitchen floor. There was also a religious book. A neighbour accompanying me became agitated seeing the condition of the book. Sensing that this situation may further aggravate tensions, I pleaded with him to remain silent. Scores of angry people were standing outside and any provocation had the potential to start another wave of violence. He thankfully found merit in what I said. He picked up the book, and we quietly left the place. Whatever be the situation, one of the thumb rules in this profession is that we are first journalists; we cannot afford to let religion or ethnicity cloud our judgement.

But this is an ideal, and the opposite often takes place. The ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur has brought to the fore the disturbing trend of reporting on ethnic lines. More than 100 people have been killed and thousands have been displaced in the last 50 days. And just like the police, the press too is deeply divided. An officer told me a few days ago that even two reporters working for the same organisation could have different versions of the same incident, depending on their ethnicity.

During a conflict, it often suits the government to suppress and censor news. This is where journalists can play a key role by holding the government accountable. But this is not what is happening in Manipur. If you pick up a newspaper published from Imphal and another newspaper published from a hill district, you will find that the news is often along community lines. There are exaggerated claims by both sides.

It is too simplistic to blame the journalists without factoring in the dangers faced by them. A crowd gathered outside the residence of The Hindu correspondent in Imphal after a news report about the killing of nine people in Imphal East was published on the front page of the newspaper on June 15. The locals were angry as they did not agree with the facts presented in the report. The said reporter had not provided inputs surrounding the killings, but he had provided additional details on curfew timings and protests, which is why the report carried his byline. The report also carried my byline as I had provided inputs about the killings after checking the veracity of the information with multiple sources.

After the crowd gathered in front of his house, the reporter clarified he had nothing to do with some parts of the report, which were written by me. The incident highlighted the immense pressure faced by reporters on the ground. This week, a TV journalist from a Delhi-based news channel was assaulted at the government-run media centre in Imphal. Imphal-based journalists say the scale of violence in the hill districts can never be known as reporters don't dare go there.

The political establishment has failed to assuage the situation or protect press freedom. Home Minister Amit Shah visited Manipur from May 29 to June 1. On the last day of his visit, he addressed a press conference in Imphal. It was quite telling that there was not a single journalist from the hill district at the conference, for travelling to Imphal would have been a matter of life and death for them. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh did not accompany Mr. Shah when the Home Minister visited the hill districts.

Those reporting on the issue from other parts of country are labelled 'parachute journalists'. It is said that they don't understand the State and have no knowledge of its history and culture. They are sometimes accused of pecuniary benefits. Despite these challenges, there is only one way forward: to keep reporting and verifying information.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A helping hand

An officer of the Assam Rifles hands over essential relief material to the people of Manipur at the Government Dance College relief camp, in Imphal West district. With highway blockades and the armed cadres of insurgent groups —both Kuki and Meitei —threatening free movement, the transport of essential supplies to various communities across the State has been endangered. PTI

FROM THE ARCHIVES — The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 23, 1973

Sri Lanka govt. to take over six more tea estates

Colombo, June 22: The Sirimavo Government will take over on July 1 six more tea estates in the Central High Hills, including two of Mr. S. Thondaman, President of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, the largest Indian plantation labour union of the island, it is learnt. Mr. Thondaman is a bitter opponent of the present left United Front Government and had lent his support to the United National Party of the late Mr. Dudley Senanayake during the 1970 elections. The CWC is now one of the important constituents of the Tamil United Front, which is spearheading an agitation for "equal rights" to the Tamil minority community of the island in the Republican Constitution. Under the land reforms, the United Front Government had taken over earlier, among others, another estate in which Mr. Thondaman had predominant interest.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 23, 1923

Mammoth diamond

Cape Town, June 22: The world famous emerald green diamond weighing 1 and a half carats, the only one of its kind in the world, found by and belonging to J. Novick of Bloemhof, has been despatched to India to the order of a wellknown South African merchant who is also en route to India in spite of several large offers from Europe and America.

From Page One

Modi's U.S. visit yields many vital agreements

The address on the South Lawn saw a number of people chanting "Modi, Modi", even as protesters met further away from the White House to demand that the U.S. President raise human rights issues with the PM. More than 75 lawmakers had signed a letter urging Mr. Biden to express concerns over the situation in India "publicly", while a number of members of Congress announced on Thursday that they would "boycott" Mr. Modi's address to the joint session of the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Biden, who embraced Mr. Modi many times during the welcoming ceremony, had clearly set aside the protests. "I've long believed that the relationship between the United States and India will be one of the defining relationships of the 21st century," he said.

Cabinet officials on both sides and a few thousand diaspora members, some of whom chanting "Modi, Modi" were in attendance. It was not just pomp and ceremony though – the two sides announced a long list of deliverables spanning defence, critical and emerging technology, health, energy and mobility. Mr. Biden characterised this as a "next generation partnership". "After becoming the Prime Minister, I have come here many times, but today for the first time the doors of the White House have been opened for the Indian American community in such large numbers," Mr. Modi said.

Also palpable in Washington were concerns around Mr. Modi's past, when he was Chief Minister of Gujarat, as well as concerns about democratic backsliding in India.

'We the people'

"... As democracies, we can better tap into the full talent of all of our people and attract investments ... with our ...greatest export being the power of our example: equity under the law, freedom of expression, religious, pluralism and diversity of our people," Mr. Biden said in his welcome speech on the South Lawn. Both leaders referred to the countries' Constitutions beginning with the phrase "We the people". "Both of our countries take pride in their diversity. Both of us believe in the fundamental principle of in the interest of all for the welfare of all," Mr. Modi said as per a translated version of his speech. "Our strong strategic partnership is a clear proof of the power of democracy," he added.

"The decisions we make today are going to determine our future for decades to come," Mr. Biden added.

Jet engine tech transfer

Earlier in the day, General Electric and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited announced they had signed a big-ticket MoU to jointly produce GE 414 jet engines in India for the Tejas Mk2 light combat aircraft. U.S. officials who briefed journalists before the announcement appeared to be patting themselves on the back for the deal, with one official describing the Indian side as being "surprised and thrilled by the steps" the American side has been able to take to overcome bureaucratic roadblocks to the deal. India's purchase of armed drones is also likely to be announced on Thursday.

The Defence Ministries of the two countries also launched the inaugural session of an innovation platform – INDUS-X – in Washington DC on June 21, hosted by the U.S. India Business Council, to foster defence industrial collaboration. Among the big private sector deals coinciding with the visit was U.S. semiconductor and chip maker Micron Technology, Inc's announcement that it would invest up to $825 million in a new chip assembly and test facility in Gujarat, which would be bolstered by investment from the Indian and Gujarat governments, totalling $2.75 billion.

(With inputs from Suhasini Haider in Delhi)

'Poll panel accountable for Bengal violence'

The Governor's remarks came a day after he returned Mr. Sinha's joining report to the State government on Wednesday. The development has not only triggered a fresh controversy, but also a constitutional crisis, with questions being raised as to what will be the fate of the Commissioner if the Governor sticks to his stand. Sources say since the poll process has already started, the State may request the Governor again to complete the formalities of the appointment.

PM must chair all-party meet on Manipur, says Congress

Modi's absence shows his 'cowardice and unwillingness to confront failures', says party, adding that meeting should take place in Manipur; Congress says it will take part in the discussions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Describing the all-party meeting convened by Union Home Minister Amit Shah to discuss the situation in Manipur as "too little, too late", the Congress on Thursday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's absence from such a serious meeting shows "his cowardice and unwillingness to confront failures". Nevertheless, the party said that it would participate in the meeting.

"Manipur has been burning since 50 days, but the Prime Minister has remained silent. An all-party meeting was called when the Prime Minister himself is not in the country. Clearly, this meeting is not important for the Prime Minister," said former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi in a tweet.

Tough time: Women gather after violence broke out in Imphal West on Tuesday. ANI

Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal, speaking to reporters at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters, asserted that Mr. Modi should preside over such a meeting, and that it should be held in Manipur.

"Home Minister had already gone there and done an exercise. What is the point of Home Minister calling a meeting again. There should be a Prime Minister-level meeting and that too in Manipur," he told reporters, adding, "The Prime Minister has not uttered a single word... The PM should find some time for our own State, Manipur, as well".

In a separate tweet, Mr. Venugopal said: "Well after 50 days of death and destruction in Manipur, HM @AmitShah's call for an all-party meeting is too little, too late. The government only woke up after Smt Sonia Gandhi ji's address to the people of Manipur."

"At the outset, the PM's absence from such a serious meeting shows his cowardice and unwillingness to confront his failures. Even when multiple delegations sought meetings with him, he had no time for them," the Congress leader added.

Congress leader Pawan Khera, however, clarified that the party would not boycott the Saturday meeting convened by Mr. Shah and will be attending the meet. Terming the violence in Manipur as a colossal failure of the double-engine government, Congress communication chief Jairam Ramesh issued a video statement to question Mr. Modi.

Manipur invokes RBI's riot provisions to aid borrowers

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Manipur government has declared that the whole State has been affected by riots and violence, impacting the economic activities and livelihood of the public.

To provide relief, the State government has invoked a rarely used Reserve Bank of India (RBI) provision pertaining to restructuring and rescheduling of loans. It provides relief to borrowers when economic activity comes to a halt and offers moratorium on repayment of loans. The guidelines have been mostly invoked in areas affected by natural calamities and not for a law and order situation.

Since Wednesday, three incidents of firing and a car-bomb explosion have been reported in the State.

In a June 21 order, Vineet Joshi, Chief Secretary of Manipur, said that reports were received from several Deputy Commissioners that many properties and businesses of residents have been affected due to the law and order situation. " The borrowers who had taken loans are not in a position to repay them and requested SLBC [State Level Bankers' Committee] to extend relief to the affected persons," it said. The SLBC discussed the matter on June 9.

The order also said chapter No. 7 of the "Reserve Bank of India (Relief Measures by Banks in Areas Affected by Natural Calamities) Directions, 2018" applies to the State.

"Therefore, the Governor of Manipur hereby declares that the whole State of Manipur is being affected by violences/riots leading to economic activities and livelihood of the public being affected," and relief measures may be taken up under the RBI's guidelines, the order said.

Trade unions boycott G-20 meet over BMS appointment as chair

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

About 10 Central Trade Unions (CTUs) have boycotted the Labour20 (L-20), the meeting of trade unions from G-20 countries, which began in Patna on Thursday. The unions are unhappy with the Centre's decision to appoint RSS-supported trade union Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) as the chair of the L-20.

The CTUs complained that the International Trade Unions Confederation (ITUC) used to chair the L-20 meetings and the BMS was not a member of the ITUC. The Centre has apparently refused the ITUC's demand that the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) also be made a chair of the L-20 by maintaining that the BMS is the largest trade union in the country.

Bihar Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar inaugurated the thematic event of the engagement group of L-20 on Thursday. BMS president Hiranmaye Pandaya is chairing the meet. Mr. Pandya said the L-20 would not only represent the voice of G-20 nations but it would surely also represent the voice of those nations whose representatives were not in the attendance.

The key themes of the meeting are "Social Security & International Portability of Social Security Fund and Women and Future of Work". Mr. Pandya said the trade unions themselves discussed these issues. "Extensive discussions were also held with the representatives of Business-20, Civil-20, Youth-20, Women-20 etc.," he said.

Union Labour Secretary Aarti Ahuja is also attending the meeting. Union Labour Minister Bhupendra Yadav and Union Minister of State for Labour Rameshwar Teli and Labour Minister of Bihar Surendra Ram will address the summit on Friday.

When asked about the CTUs' decision to boycott the L-20, Mr. Yadav said his Ministry had always been encouraging tripartite consultations. Mr. Pandya said that 173 delegates from 28 countries were attending the conference.

The CTUs said in a letter to the Union Labour Ministry that it was surprising that the Centre did not respond to their letters on L-20 in the last six months.

Extend deadline for higher pension, simplify application process, employers tell EPFO

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

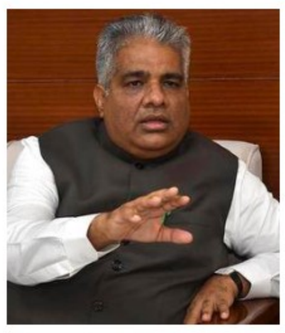
As the June 26 deadline to submit joint options to claim higher Provident Fund pensions nears, several employers and their representatives are learnt to have approached the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), seeking an extension, and a simplified process.

The employers argued that since the process involved the transaction of an employee's hard-earned money, it should be done meticulously and needed more time. Union Labour Minister Bhupender Yadav said sufficient time had been given, but added that the Centre would address all concerns.

Meticulous process

K.E. Raghunathan, who represents employers in the EPFO's central board of trustees, confirmed that employers had raised certain grievances with the EPFO.

"The process of ratifying joint options has to be done meticulously as it is involving money transaction. The employer will have to comply with certain formalities. But during COVID, several companies have stopped operations. Data of pensioners beyond seven or eight years might have been lost. I am sure the EPFO will extend the date of joint submission," he said.



Bhupender Yadav

"They are not able to fill up the details. The date has to be extended and a simplified process should be brought in place."

Once an employee submits the joint option, the employer will have to ratify it by uploading month-wise details from November 1995, the month from which the Employees Pension Scheme started.

As the employers may not have maintained such details, they have demanded that the EPFO provide access to its data for individual employees since 1995.

Validation problems

Pensioners have also raised certain objections regarding the application process. Parveen Kohli, an activist for pensioners' rights, said that the pensions of 24,672 retirees had been revised after they exercised the joint option in 2017-18, on the basis of an EPFO HQ circular issued on March 23, 2017 implementing the R.C. Gupta judgment of the Supreme Court.

"Their pension had also been revised after acceptance/approval of joint option. Now, we have been asked to apply for validation of these joint options. But when we apply, there is no opportunity to select any such date beyond August 31, 2014. Supreme Court has nowhere allowed EPFO to unsettle the settled cases, particularly when we were not a party to the litigation, as there was no cause of action/grievance because we were already getting higher pension after exercising joint option in 2017/2018 in the format provided by EPFO," Mr. Kohli said.

Man arrested, 17-year-old detained in CoWIN case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police's special cell on Thursday said it had arrested a 21-year-old man from Bihar and detained a 17-year-old boy for their involvement in the alleged data leak from the CoWIN platform. The breach led to exposure of personal details of COVID-19 vaccination beneficiaries on a Telegram bot.

A senior police officer said the 21-year-old had a bachelor's degree in technology. The accused, according to the police, was behind the creation of the Telegram bot. It is unclear whether the bot was acting as an interface between a flaw in the CoWIN database and the alleged hackers, or if the latter were able to siphon off and download the entire database of vaccine beneficiaries.

"The accused's mother works as a healthcare worker in Bihar, and she is also being questioned. It is suspected that she might have a role to play considering the sensitive information and she would have helped him to breach the platform," the officer said.

AAP demands Cong. support in fight against ordinance

Nikhil M. Babu
Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Threatening to derail the first Opposition meeting to decide its strategy against the BJP for the 2024 general elections, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) sources said the party would walk out of the meeting if the Congress did not agree to support its fight against the Union government's ordinance.

Two other Opposition leaders – Bahujan Samaj Party supremo Mayawati and Rashtriya Lok Dal leader Jayant Chaudhary – will also be skipping the meet.

Though the AAP has not gone public with its stand, according to sources, it has conveyed its position to the other Opposition leaders.

Several Opposition leaders that *The Hindu* reached out to, said that the Ordinance was not a pressing issue.

Maharashtra may allow Centre to take control of Ambedkar's London house

Abhinay Deshpande
MUMBAI

The Shinde-Fadnavis government in Maharashtra is set to grant its consent to the Centre's proposal to assume control of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's residence in London, which has been converted into a museum, and transform it into an autonomous unit.

The 2,050-square feet three-storey residential property at 10 King Henry's Road in north London was acquired by the State government in 2015 for £3.2 million to turn it into a museum. The same year, it was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and since then it has been accessible to scholars and academics.

Honouring Babasaheb: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Memorial in London was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in 2015. PTI

Recently, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has written to the State government expressing its desire to take over the Museum stating "disparate foreign academics were interested in securing control of the Museum in the garb of leading the Ambedkarites".

The letter, a copy of which is in possession of *The Hindu*, further stated that the Centre has plans to enhance the Museum and establish it as an autonomous unit, with a Director appointed by the Indian government to oversee the operations. The Centre was established in 1992.

"This would help turn the museum operationally more active in promoting a broader understanding of Babasaheb Ambedkar's work including his views on nation-building, diversity, inclusion, institution-building, and decentralisation among others," the letter stated.

The Centre also proposes to involve the younger cohort of Indian students coming to London to pursue their higher education, especially those on Ministry of Social Justice Scholarships. "This way the Museum may provide them a better perspective on Babasaheb's vision," it said.

A senior official said that the State government is positive about the MEA's request and they would soon write back to the Union government.

Senior South Eastern Railway officials shifted

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

A fortnight after the train accident in Odisha, the Railway Ministry has transferred top officials of the South Eastern Railway.

P.M. Sikdar, Principal Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, was posted as Officer on Special Duty, North Central Railway. Chandan Adhikary, Principal Chief Safety Officer, was posted as OSD in Northeast Frontier Railway. Mohammed Owais, Principal Chief Commercial Manager, was posted as Chief Administrative Officer, Systems, NFR. Mohammed Sujath Hashmi, Divisional Railway Manager of Kharagpur, was shifted without a posting.

APPEAL

Ms.Punitha.V, daughter of Veerabathiran, 21 years admitted in Christian Medical College, is suffering from sub-aortic membrane, severe sub-aortic obstruction, bicuspid aortic valve, severe post ductal coarctation of aorta, normal LV/RV function. She has been advised to undergo coarctoplasty+resection of sub aortic membrane at the earliest. The cost of surgery would be about **Rs. 3,20,000/-**.

Please send donation however small and save the girl. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Punitha.V, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Narendra Modi gifting Jill Biden a lab-grown diamond in Washington on Wednesday. PTI

PM gifts U.S. First Lady a lab-grown diamond

Press Trust of India
AHMEDABAD

The 7.5-carat eco-friendly laboratory-grown diamond, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted to the U.S. First Lady Jill Biden in Washington on Wednesday, has been manufactured in a Surat factory in Gujarat by recreating the same process that takes place beneath the earth in the formation of natural diamonds.

Laboratory-grown diamonds are much in demand now for its eco-friendly nature and the government has decided to promote them in a big way.

GE Aerospace, HAL sign MoU for manufacture of jet engines in India

F414 engines will power LCA-MK2 and the fifth-generation twin-engine Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft-MK1, which is on the drawing board and requires a more powerful engine; F414-powered aircraft are in use with eight nations

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Amid the ongoing U.S. visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, engine manufacturer GE Aerospace on Thursday announced signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) to produce fighter jet engines for the indigenous light combat aircraft (LCA). The proposal needs authorisation from the U.S. Congress before an agreement can be concluded.

"The agreement includes the potential joint production of GE Aerospace's F414 engines in India, and GE Aerospace continues to work with the U.S. government to receive the necessary export authorisation for this. The effort is part of the Indian Air Force's (IAF) LCA Mk2 programme," a statement from GE Aerospace said.

Indian Air Force LCA Tejas performs an aerobatic display during the Aero India 2023 air show, Yelahanka air base, Benagluru. REUTERS

"Today's agreement will advance GE Aerospace's earlier commitment to build 99 engines for the IAF as part of the LCA Mk2 programme."

The firm noted that this put the company in a strong position to create a family of products in India, including the F404 engine that currently powers the LCA Mk1 and LCA Mk1A and GE Aerospace's selection for the "prototype development, testing and certification of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme with our F414-INS6 engine". In addition, GE will continue to collaborate with the Indian government on the AMCA Mk2 engine programme, it stated.

The LCA MK1 and MK1A, 83 of which are on order, are powered by the F404 engine, while the LCA-MK2 will be a larger and more capable jet and will be powered by the F414 engine.

Terming it a historic agreement, H. Lawrence Culp Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of GE and CEO of GE Aerospace, said, "Our F414 engines are unmatched and will offer important economic and national security benefits for both countries as we help our customers produce the highest quality engines to meet the needs of their military fleet."

In 1986, GE began working with the Aeronautical Development Agency and HAL with its F404 engines for the LCA programme. "In total, 75 F404 engines have been delivered and another 99 are on order for LCA Mk1A. Eight F414 engines have been delivered as part of an ongoing development program for LCA Mk2," the firm said.

The MK2 development received sanction from the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in August 2022 at a total cost of ₹9,000 crore. DRDO had stated that the prototype is expected to roll out by 2024-25 and the jet will be ready for production by 2027. The fifth generation AMCA is awaiting CCS sanction, the development of which will take 10 years after that, as reported by *The Hindu* earlier. The project cost of the AMCA is estimated at around ₹15,000 crore.

For AMCA-MK2, India is looking at a more powerful engine which it plans to co-develop with an international partner. With more than five million flight hours and eight nations with F414-powered aircraft, F414 continues to exceed goals for reliability, a statement said.

Obama says India may 'pull apart' over minority rights

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Barack Obama

India may "pull apart" if rights of the religious and ethnic minorities are not upheld, former U.S. President Barack Obama said on Thursday.

In an interview with CNN's Christiane Amanpour, Mr. Obama expressed concern about rights of vulnerable sections in Indian society, and emphasised that the Biden administration should discuss these issues "honestly" with Prime Minister Modi.

"If the President meets with Prime Minister Modi, then the protection of the Muslim minority in a Hindu majority India is worth mentioning. If I had a conversation with Prime Minister Modi, who I know well, part of my argument would be that if you don't protect the rights of ethnic minorities in India, there is a strong possibility that India would at some point start pulling apart," said Mr. Obama who is among the biggest supporters of Mr. Biden in the Democratic Party. Mr. Obama added, "We have seen what happens when you start getting those kinds of large internal conflicts. So that would be contrary to the interests of not only Muslim India but also Hindu India. It is important to be able to talk about these things honestly."

The remarks were in response to Ms. Amanpour's question on President Biden's policy on defence of democracy across the world.

All set for Opposition meet as Patna offers a joint platform before 2024

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

With Opposition leaders from across the country pouring into Patna, the city has turned into a battleground, with the BJP going on an overdrive flooding the city with posters branding the meeting as a "gathering of thugs".

The Opposition picked Patna as a venue for its meeting for two reasons – neutral ground distant from Delhi and the 1974 call of Total Revolution by Jayaprakash Narayan that toppled Indira Gandhi's majority government.

Former Deputy Chief Minister and BJP Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Modi scoffed at the Opposition. Singling out at the Congress, he said, "The one who imposed Emergency in the country and put Jayaprakash Narayan in jail, and curbed the freedom of the press, is now coming to Bihar and crying out for democracy."

Joining hands: Opposition leaders meet at Lalu Prasad's residence in Patna on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Unperturbed by the BJP's blitz against them, for the Opposition leaders Thursday was a day to reconnect and reminiscence before cold-headed negotiations begin for the 2024 election.

Trinamool Congress leader and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, along with her nephew Abhishek Banerjee, directly went to 5 Deshratna Marg, after landing in the city in the afternoon, to meet Rashtriya Janata Dal supremo Lalu Prasad, praising him for his tenacity to fight against the BJP in spite of all odds, including prolonged a jail term.

When presspersons asked her how would the Congress, the CPI(M) and the Trinamool settle the electoral equation in West Bengal, she said, "Let us see what happens in the meeting tomorrow [June 23], after that we will talk. The policy which would prepare will be acceptable to all. The Opposition should have a common candidate."

Former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti was the first to reach Patna in the morning itself. Later in the evening, Mr. Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann reached Patna apart from CPI(ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, CPI general secretary D. Raja and CPI (M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin also reached by evening. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and senior leader Rahul Gandhi are expected to reach on Friday, just before the meeting leaving a little scope of an accidental meeting between them and Mr. Kejriwal.

L&T, DRDO sign pact to build AIP modules

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Thursday signed a contract for realisation of two Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) System Modules for the *Kalvari* Class of submarines of the Indian Navy, the company announced.

An AIP module extends the endurance of conventional submarines and is a niche technology.

"These modules constitute the core of the fuel cell-based AIP System, indigenously developed by the Naval Materials Research Laboratory of the DRDO with L&T as prime industry partner. The Energy Modules comprising fuel cells produce the required power, along with on board hydrogen generation," the company said.

Green nod is faster now: Yadav

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The average time to accord environmental clearances to industrial projects had come down to below 75 days and this was a "matter of pride", said Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav at a press conference on Thursday. "Every project that comes up is analysed for its potential environmental impact and appraised accordingly" said Mr. Yadav.

Government of Odisha
Office of the Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.
E-mail Id: serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com

Bid Identification No. Road Tender Online RWCSBP-10 No : 1361 Dated : 21.06.2023

The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites online percentage rate Bid from experienced & eligible bidders for **04 (Four) nos of Road work under CMRL for the year 2023-24**.

1. Name of work : Road works under CMRL for the year 2023-24.
2. No of work : 04(Four) nos of Road work Details as per DTCN.
3. Estimated Cost : Approximately Cost Rs.118.25 lakhs to Rs.266.50 lakhs.
4. Class of Contractor : 'B', 'A' Class
5. Cost of tender paper and mode of deposit : Rs.10,000/- per set.(to be deposited On-line) in favour of concerned Superintending Engineer.
6. Mode of submission of tender : Tender should be submitted only On line in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in . (https//tendersodisha.gov.in)
7. EMD and mode of deposit : 1% of estimated cost of the work to be remitted online as mentioned in DTCN.

8. Summary of Key dates are provided below :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding		Last Date & Time for seeking clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.	Road Tender Online - RWCSBP-10/2023-24	04.07.2023 at 11.00.A.M.	18.07.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.	15.07.2023 up to 5.00.P.M.	19.07.2023 at 11.00.A.M.	To be intimated later

* Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **www.tendersorissa.gov.in. (https//tendersodisha.gov.in)**
* Subsequent modification/ corrigendum/Addendum if required shall appear in website only.
* The amount put to bid is exclusive of GST.
* Bidder should inspect the road before bidding and quote his rate accordingly.

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.
O-245 : OIPR-25091/11/0017/2324

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CENTRALISED ADMISSION COMMITTEE (CENTAC)
KAMARAJAR MANIMANDAPAM CAMPUS, PUDUCHERRY

Admission Notification

NRI/NRI Sponsored/FN/PIO/CIWGC/OCI category seats in PUDUCHERRY TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY for the academic year 2023-24

Applications are invited from the eligible **NRI/NRI Sponsored/FN/PIO/CIWGC/OCI** candidates seeking admission to first year B.Tech. degree courses in **PUDUCHERRY TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY** for the academic year 2023-24 in various branches of Engineering / Technology. Online applications are accepted through CENTAC website **www.centacpuducherry.in** and the last date for applying is **06.07.2023.** Refer CENTAC website for further assistance.

CONVENOR, CENTAC
No.147/DIP/AD(Press)/2023-24

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : WRD/KWA-CE(SR)/TR/7902/2022_26_6_5/1, WRD/KWA-CE(SR)/TR/7902/2022_26_2_1/1, JJM - CWSS to 13 panchayaths based on Malankara reservoir - Kottayam district - Design and construction of service reservoirs, providing transmission/pumping mains, distribution network, and providing FHTCs, etc. in Meenachil and Poonjar panchayaths., **EMD** : Rs. 5,00,000/- each, **Tender fee :** Rs. 16540 + (2978)GST each, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 13-07-2023, 03:00:pm, **Phone :** 0481-2562745
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

Superintending Engineer
PH circle, Kottayam
KWA-JB-GL-6-526-2023-24

APTRANSCO :: VIJAYAWADA
e-Procurement Tender Notice

The APTRANSCO invites bids online for **Spec No.PMM31-e-25/2023. Nature of Work:** supply, testing & commissioning of Relay & Protection panels and other equipment for Renovation & Up gradation of protection and control systems in EHT substations of APTRANSCO under PSDF phase-II scheme. **Date & Time of availability of Tenders: 22-06-2023 at 5.00 PM**. Web: **https://apeprocurement.gov.in**

DIPR 2165PP/CL, Dt: 22-06-2023 **Sd/- Chief Engineer, Transmission**

KRISHNA UNIVERSITY
Rudravaram, Machilipatnam- 521004, A.P. Cell: 9542487999

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited from the established firms for Processing of UG, PG & Professional Courses examination results. The tender schedule can be downloaded from the **www.kru.ac.in website.** The sealed Tenders shall reach the **Registrar, Krishna University, Machilipatnam on or before 04.00 PM on 06-07-2023**. The sealed Tenders will be opened at 11.00 AM on **12-07-2023.**

Date : 23-06-2023 **REGISTRAR**

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PWE CIRCLE SIKAR
(डाक बंगला कैम्पस सीकर 332001; email : piu_sikar1@rediffmail.com, seskr.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in)
No.:- SE/Sikar/2023/D-330 Date:-05-06-2023

Notice Inviting Bid No. 03/2023-24

Bids for 12 (Twelve Nos) Building and Road Work are invited from interested bidders upto 06:00 PM dated 07.06.2023 to 27.06.2023. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state; and PWD departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 3180.69 Lac
NIB NO. PWD2324A0882
UBN NO. PWD2324WSOB04468, PWD2324WSOB04470, PWD2324WSOB04473, PWD2324WSOB04475, PWD2324WSOB04477, PWD2324WSOB04478, PWD2324WSOB04480, PWD2324WSOB04483, PWD2324WSOB04485, PWD2324WSOB04487, PWD2324WSOB04488, PWD2324WSOB04491

(Mahendra Singh)
Superintending Engineer
PWD Circle Sikar
DIPR/C/8635

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER P.W.D. ZONE TONK
क्रमांक: 1072-1083 दिनांक : 13/06/2023

Notice Inviting Bid
10/2023-24

Bid for 8 No. Govt. College/Girls college Building work in District Dausa/ Tonk for the Budget Declaration Year 2023-24, Zone Tonk (Provision of Defect Liability period is 5 Years) are invited from interested bidders upto 25.06.2023 Time 6.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state; and Public Works department Rajathan webstie. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2824.00 Lacs.

NIB code PWD2324A1072, PWD2324WSOB05501, PWD2324WSOB05503, PWD2324WSOB05506, PWD2324WSOB05508, PWD2324WSOB05509, PWD2324WSOB05510, PWD2324WSOB05511,PWD2324WSOB05512

Addl. Chief Engineer,
P.W.D., Zone, Tonk.
DIPR/C/9092

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग कोटा
क्रमांक: 664 दिनांक: 09.06.2023
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या 04/पीएमजीएसवाई/2023-24
NIB No. PWD2324A0985

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजनान्तर्गत स्वीकृत सड़कों के चौड़ाईकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य एवं ब्रिज कार्य के निम्नलिखित कार्यों मय पांच साल की मरम्मत के लिए 14 पैकेज हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से ऑन लाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in व http://pmgsytendersraj.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। पैकेजवाईज यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।

1. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05083	6. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05094	11. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05101
2. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05085	7. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05095	12. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05102
3. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05088	8. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05096	13. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05103
4. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05091	9. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05098	14. UBN No. PWD2324WSLB05104
5. UBN No. PWD2324WLOB05093	10. UBN No. PWD2324WSOB05100	

इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://pmgsytendersraj.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड होना आवश्यक है।

(नारायण सिंह मीणा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
सा.नि.वि. संभाग- कोटा
डीआईपीआर/सी/8672/2023

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय – निदेशक, पुरातत्व एवं संग्रहालय विभाग, राजस्थान, जयपुर
दूरभाष सं. 0141-2820360 **email: dirarchraj@gmail.com**
क्रमांक : पु.सं./तक./स्मा./कैफेटेरिया/आमेर/2023/7741 दिनांक : 08.06.2023

ई – निविदा सूचना

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से राजकीय संग्रहालय व महल, आमेर में पर्यटकों की सुविधार्थ निर्धारित स्थान पर कैफेटेरिया की स्थापना एवं संचालन के लिए इच्छुक और पात्र कंपनी / फर्म / व्यक्तियों / संयुक्त उद्यमों / उपक्रमों से ऑनलाईन बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है। बोली का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है : –

विवरण	निविदा शुल्क	निविदा प्रकिया शुल्क	ऑनलाईन निविदा दस्तावेज प्राप्त करने का समय एवं दिनांक	ऑनलाईन निविदा दस्तावेज जमा करवाने का समय एवं दिनांक	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने का समय एवं दिनांक
राजकीय संग्रहायल व महल आमेर में कैफेटेरिया की स्थान एवं संचालन	1000/–	2000/–	दिनांक 21.06.2023, प्रातः 10 बजे से दिनांक 12.07.2023 को सायं 5:00 बजे तक	दिनांक 21.06.2023, प्रातः 10 बजे से दिनांक 12.07.2023 को सायं 5:00 बजे तक	13.07.2023 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे

1. यूबीएन नं. AMD2324SLOB00026

निदेशक
DIPR/C/8873/2023/ A/E

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP
LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Ph: 04842323448/458, Web: www.ldcl.nic.in
E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com
Dt : 20.06.2023

TENDER

E-tender is invited for engagement of manning agent for deployment of officers onboard 5 Nos of Passengers vessels, 1 Nos of Oil Tanker, 3 Nos of Cargo Barges and 3 Nos of LPG Careers operated by LDCL vide Tender Nos. LDCL/S/Manning/AS-LS/2023, LDCL/S/Manning/AM/2023, LDCL/S/Manning/CO-LG/2023, LDCL/S/Manning/KO-EL/2023, LDCL/S/Manning/LPG Carrier/2023, LDCL/S/Manning/SS-SY/2023 and LDCL/S/Manning/THKM/2023

For details and E-tendering please visit website **https://www.tenderwizard.com/UTL** Tender due on 11.07.2023 at 03.00 PM. For any help in e-tendering, please contact Help Desk No.080-40482000 / 9605557738/9686115318.

Sd/- MD (LDCL)

TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LTD
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Nigam Bhavan, 1st floor, sector-16
Gandhinagar-382016, Gujarat

Tender Notice

The tender is invited by Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd. (TCGL), for the appointment of agency for **"Development of Landscaping & Tourist Facilities at Rushi no Aaro & Dai Lake, Vadnagar Dist : Meshana."** Estimated Cost of the Project Rs.16,63,23,384/-.The interested bidders/agencies may download the tender document form the website: www.nprocure.com from 23/06/2023 onwards. Last date of submission on online: 15/07/2023 up to 6.00pm. And Technical Bid (Hard Copy) is 18/07/2023 up to 6:00 pm. Tender may also be referred on www.gujarattourism.com

Managing Director of TCGL reserves the right to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN) (NIEPMD)
(Accredited by NAAC) (ISO 9001 ; 2015)
(Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India)
Muttukadu, East Coast Road, Kovalam (P.O), Chennai - 603 112
Phone: 044 –27472113, 27472423 Mobile: 9444314716 Toll Free No: 18004250345
Kiran Mental Health Helpline No: 1800-599-0019
www.niepmd.tn.nic.in Email: niepmd@gmail.com, asponiepmd@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER: FOR POST CONSTRUCTION ANTI-TERMITE TREATMENT ON EXISTING MAIN BUILDING AT NIEPMD CAMPUS, MUTTUKADU

NIEPMD invites e-tender in two bid system (Technical and Financial) through NIC e-procurement portal URL **http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app** for the above mentioned work from the eligible with CPWD/PWD/MES/Railways/PSU or any State or Central Govt. Undertaking Organization. The E-tender document may be downloaded from website https://eprocure.gov.in/ and from website www.niepmd.tn.nic.in and submitted through online mode only. E-Tender must be submitted through **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Last date for submission of E-bidding	11.07.2023 (04.00 PM)
EMD Amount	Rs.50,000/-
Date & Time of Opening of Tender Documents	12.07.2023 (04.30 PM)

Sd/-
Director

INBRIEF

Mehbooba visits burial site of 16th century Kashmir king

On the eve of Friday's meeting of Opposition parties in Patna, Peoples Democratic Party leader Mehbooba Mufti paid respects to a Kashmir king, Yusuf Shah Chak, at his grave in Nalanda district of Bihar. Yusuf Shah Chak ruled Kashmir from 1579 to 1586, before being exiled by the Mughal emperor Akbar. He was one of the last native rulers of Kashmir. Ms. Mufti appealed to Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to take steps to "preserve the relic of history", which is in "absolute disrepair and ruins". She recited the Koran and did *chaadar poshi* at the burial ground of the king and his kin. "As the last Muslim ruler of Kashmir, his resting place symbolises the ties between Kashmir & Bihar," she said in a tweet.

Sisters in military service win Florence Nightingale Award

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday gave away the National Florence Nightingale Award to 30 nurses. The winners of the award, instituted by the Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry to recognise meritorious services by nurses and nursing professionals, include Major-General Smita Devrani, Additional Director-General of the Military Nursing Service (MNS), for 2022 and her sister Brigadier Amita Devrani of the MNS for 2023. "The award ... is an apt recognition for their remarkable contribution and service for almost four decades," the Defence Ministry said. Major-General Devrani was commissioned in 1983 and Brigadier Devrani in 1986.

Pilot, co-pilot suspended over unauthorised cockpit entry

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation on Thursday suspended an Air India pilot-in-command for a year for allowing unauthorised entry into the cockpit. He permitted a woman friend into the cockpit on a Chandigarh-Leh flight on June 3. The friend, who is an Indian Air Force pilot, remained inside the cockpit throughout the flight. The aviation regulator also suspended the co-pilot for a month for neither preventing the entry of the woman nor reporting the violation. This is the second such incident aboard Air India in the past three months.

10 killed as vehicle falls into a gorge in Uttarakhand

Ten persons, including a newly-wed couple, travelling in a utility vehicle to a temple at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand died as their vehicle overturned and fell into a gorge near the Ramganga river on Thursday. A passer-by alerted the district control room and a disaster response team was immediately sent for rescue. No one in the car could be saved. The bodies had to be extricated after cutting the vehicle. Local people said the roads were slippery in the continuous rain that has lashed the hills over a 24-hour period, and some stretches had boulders that crashed down in a landslip. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami expressed his condolences on the death of the devotees.

G-20 Education Ministers agree on equitable use of AI

G-20 members have agreed on the need to work together for a resilient, equitable, inclusive and sustainable future via education; they seek to overcome age, gender, socio-economic challenges

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A meeting of the Education Ministers of G-20 countries held in Pune agreed to equitable and inclusive use of Artificial Intelligence in education and skilling that respects human rights.

All G-20 members also agreed to the critical role that education plays as an enabler of human dignity and empowerment globally.

An outcome statement of the meeting said the G-20 members have agreed on the need to work together for a resilient, equitable, inclusive and sustainable future through education.

"All G-20 members agreed on the need to ensure that everyone, irrespective of age, gender, socio-economic or cultural background, or those who

> Our Education, Skill and Labour Ministries are working in tandem on this initiative. G-20 countries can undertake skill mapping at the global level
>
> **NARENDRA MODI**
> Prime Minister

are facing physical, mental or other learning difficulties or special needs have access to quality, inclusive and equitable education and training. All G-20 members agreed that education is not only about academic learning, but also about developing life, technical and vocational skills to make all learners future ready. They also underlined the need for lifelong learning," the statement said.

The meeting recognised the important role of digital transformations, women-led development, green transition and education on sustainable development and lifestyles as accelerators that can advance the progress in sustainable development goals.

Digital divide

"We also reiterated our commitment to overcome the digital divide for all learners by addressing the barriers to technological infrastructure. We agreed on the need to work collectively to develop technology ecosystems and learning resources, including in local languages, that are affordable and easily accessible. We agreed to equitable and inclusive use of Artificial Intelligence in education and skilling that respects human rights," the statement said.

In a video message to the G-20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said to make the youth future ready, governments need to continuously skill, re-skill and up-skill them.

Skill mapping

"We need to align their competencies with evolving work profiles and practices. In India, we are undertaking skill mapping. Our Education, Skill and Labour Ministries are working in tandem on this initiative. G-20 countries can undertake skill mapping at the global level, and find gaps that need to be plugged," Mr. Modi said.

Medicines Patent Pool deal to make cancer drug cheaper

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

In a move that will make certain cancer drugs more accessible and cheaper for patients, the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) has signed sub-licence agreements with the India-based companies Eugia, Hetero and Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, along with the Indonesian firm BrightGene, to make generic versions of the drug Nilotinib of the Switzerland-based pharmaceutical corporation Novartis.

The drug is used for the treatment of chronic myeloid leukaemia, a type of blood cancer.

These first sub-licence agreements that the MPP, a United Nations-backed group working towards increasing access to, and facilitating the development of, life-saving medicines for low- and middle-income countries, has signed for a cancer treatment drug are the result of a licence agreement signed between it and Novartis Pharma AG in October 2022 for their patented cancer medicine.

Nilotinib is sold under the brand name Tasigna and marketed worldwide by Novartis.

Information released by the MPP said the selected manufacturers can make generic versions of Nilotinib in India and seven middle-income countries.

They can also supply it in 44 territories included in the licence through a non-exclusive licence agreement, subject to local regulatory authorisation.

Charles Gore, executive director of the MPP, said that they have worked with the four generic manufacturers to develop generic Nilotinib and the move will give an affordable treatment option to people diagnosed with the disease in such countries.

The licence includes the opportunity to develop and supply generic versions of Nilotinib in seven middle-income countries.

NCDRC fines Delhi-based hospital ₹1.5 crore for negligence during IVF

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

NCDRC has observed that mushrooming of IVF clinics has made unethical practices rampant in India

A West Delhi-based hospital that botched up an in vitro fertilisation procedure (IVF) for a Hyderabad-based couple, by using donor semen that did not belong to the husband, has been instructed by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) to cough up a fine of ₹1.5 crore for negligence and resorting to unethical practices.

The NCDRC has ruled that there is a need to make it mandatory for Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) centres to issue DNA profiling of babies born through ART procedures.

The commission has conveyed this to the National Medical Council and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through the order.

Unethical practices

The NCDRC has also observed that mushrooming of IVF clinics has made unethical practices rampant in India and that there is a need for a prompt and fixed timeline for accreditation of ART clinics by authorities.

The NCDRC order comes 14 years after the complainant, Priyanka Tandon, conceived twin girls. In 2008, Ms. Tandon and her husband Dinesh approached Bhatia Global Hospital and Endosurgery Institute for an IVF procedure. On October 15, 2008 an Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) procedure was carried out and an embryo was transferred to Ms. Tandon's womb.

The pregnancy was confirmed after a month and Ms. Tandon went on to deliver twin girls.

The blood group of one of the twins was AB positive. The blood group of Ms. Tandon was B positive while that of her husband was O negative.

This raised suspicion about the paternity. In 2009, the couple underwent a paternity test via DNA profiling at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, which revealed that Ms. Tandon's husband was not the biological father of the twin girls, the NCDRC order states.

The couple then filed a consumer complaint to claim ₹2 crore for alleged negligence, deficiency in service which created emotional stress, family discord and a fear of genetically inherited diseases.

Obsevations

The NCRDC observed that an embryologist, who is a crucial person for conducting the ICSI or IVF procedure, was missing from the scene in the case of the complainant couple.

It further observed that the doctors involved in the procedure were pointing fingers at each other and resorting to shifting blame and that unfair trade practices were adopted.

Amid search for Titan, lessons for proposed Indian submersible dive

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

With hope dwindling on the chances of survival of those in the Titan submersible, scientists in India, preparing to undertake a similar dive in an indigenous vehicle late next year, say that multiple back-up safety measures for the crew are already in place, though there may be reviews of the safety systems employed.

The Titan, which previously ferried tourists to the wreck of the *Titanic* buried 3,800 metres in the North Atlantic, lost contact with its mothership, *Polar Prince*, on June 17.

The Titan consists of a carbon-fibre sphere with a titanium casing on the front and back. "When we were in the planning stage, there was a proposal to use carbon fibre but we firmly ruled it out and insisted on a titanium enclosure," said G. Ramadass, Director, National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, which is in the process of designing a submersible, Matsya-6000, that will take three Indians to a depth of 6,000 metres into the Indian Ocean.

Ready to dive: A prototype of Matsya 6000, a submersible being developed by the NIOT, Chennai. R. RAVINDRAN

Matsya-6000 also has syntactic foam, a flotation device that would rise to the top and help determine the physical location of the submersible, even if it were unable to resurface.

Ahead of the main dives, likely in December 2024 or early 2025, the NIOT divers will undertake several test dives up to 500 metres inside another submersible made of steel. Titanium is stronger than steel but many times lighter – a key criterion that helps the submersible resurface with relative ease from the depths of the open ocean. While the choice of material is made depending on the depth and the cost involved, it's crucial that the submersible's hull is perfectly spherical, so that extreme pressure at the ocean depth is evenly balanced. "Even with the slightest imperfection, say even a millimetre off, it will go off like a bomb," M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), told *The Hindu*.

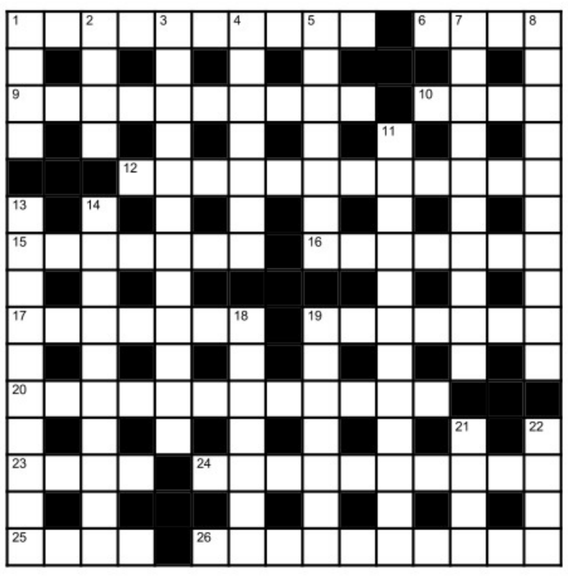
"This accident will certainly have us review and re-check all the safety measures that we will be incorporating in our mission," Dr. Ravichandran added.

TH CROSSWORD + 13899

(set by Bruno)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Tyrannical actor - terrible jerk chases gold (10)
6 Disgusting sounding fruit (4)
9 Image of one in party entertained by rag on harp being played (10)
10 Radical energy's no answer (4)
12 Terrible place on board - husband got hit, lost head and is confused (5-7)
15 Old Indian drink - two hundred should cover it (7)
16 Pout and swear, having lost first and last (7)
17 First Indian model promoting advertisement for tissue (7)
19 Man in detention gets support (7)
20 Certain leader of India can block pundits, surprisingly (12)
23 No person lacks energy at this time of the day (4)
24 Strong boy overcome by Ebola, sadly expired (4-6)
25 Legal claim of foreigner dismissed at the outset (4)
26 Administrator restricts newspaper over time - that's a downer! (10)

Down

1 Light coming from areas surrounding old city (4)
2 Tendency to cut back (4)
3 Dandy at school? There's trouble! (12)
4 Synthetic ice crystal melts, not set perhaps? (7)
5 Painting, in my opinion's dwelling around bygones (7)
7 Had to look around at start of evening in the middle of empty gutter for watchman (10)
8 Unreasonable to display married man's poem in cross (10)
11 Arrogant cousin starting to leave me out, sadly (12)
13 Measure of fluid in short spring on a lake that's not permanent (10)
14 Random pile when sorted is the same in either direction? (10)
18 Calm boy wearing matching dress in the middle (7)
19 Nonprofessional athlete's trauma affected ultimately everyone involved (7)
21 Folded edge on a bread (4)
22 Entrance to a princess' heart, ultimately (4)

SUDOKU

4			8			2		
		1	4	6			7	
6					7			
8	4					9	6	
		7	2		6	5		
	5	6					4	1
			6					7
	3			9	4	6		
		9			3			5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

No.SS5836 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

B	E	N	D	O	V	E	R		A	F	T	E	R	S
I		O		P		X		I		O		X		T
C	A	N	O	E		C	O	N	D	U	C	I	V	E
E		P		R		L		D		R		T		A
P	R	E	M	A	T	U	R	E		L	A	S	E	D
S		R		T		D		E		E				I
	A	S	P	I	R	E		D	U	T	I	F	U	L
P		O		N						T		L		Y
R	E	N	E	G	E	D		R	U	E	F	U	L	
A				S		A		E		R		O		T
C	O	R	N	Y		B	A	C	K	W	A	R	D	S
T		E		S		B		I		O		E		H
I	M	P	A	T	I	E	N	T		R	I	S	H	I
S		O		E		D		A		D		C		R
E	N	T	O	M	B		F	L	A	S	H	E	S	T

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	9	3	4	7	8	2	5
3	4	2	9	5	8	7	6	1
7	8	5	2	1	6	9	4	3
4	5	3	8	7	1	2	9	6
1	2	8	6	3	9	5	7	4
9	7	6	5	2	4	3	1	8
2	3	1	7	6	5	4	8	9
5	9	4	1	8	2	6	3	7
8	6	7	4	9	3	1	5	2

FAITH

Duties of an *acharya*

The preludes that are essential to an *acharya* to teach are described in Chapter 30, *Acharya Krithyadhikaram*, in *Rahasyathrayasaram* by Sri Vedantha Desika. The *sishya* who is full of *sathva guna* (*sathpathram*) is compared to a lamp. The *acharya* uses blemishless scriptures as wicks, pours the oil of love and affection and lights the knowledge of deepa. The teacher has to teach only to eligible students, said Valayapettai Sri Ramachariar in a discourse.

In the *Shanthiparva* of the Mahabharata, sage Vasishta narrates to king Karaala (*Vasishta Karaala samvadham*) that spiritual teaching should not be offered to the following people: those who do not have faith in the Vedas; those who tell lies; betrayers; crooks; those who think of themselves as great scholars; and those who disturb, tease and insult others.

It can be taught to the dedicated, well-mannered, deeply devoted people who have faith in the *sastras* and who follow the rituals properly. Sage Vasishta says that even if immeasurable quantity of gems is offered as *dakshina*, it should not be taught to those who do not follow the procedures and rituals stipulated in the *sastras*.

Manusmruthi says that if an *acharya* does not get a suitable *sishya*, the former may die without teaching but should never teach to the unsuitable. Otherwise, it will be like sowing seeds in a barren land.

In the Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 18, Sloka 67, Lord Krishna tells Arjuna, "You should never tell this [the spiritual teachings] to anybody who is not austere, who is not a devotee, who has no interest to lend his ears and to that person who traduces Me."

DUBAI

UAE welcomes Iran Minister in sign of softening Gulf tensions

AFP

The President of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan (right), met with Iran's visiting Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian on Thursday in the latest sign of easing tensions between Arab Gulf countries and the Islamic Republic. Iranian state TV said the two discussed further cooperation. AP

SYDNEY

Australia gives Twitter 28 days to clean up 'toxicity and hate'

AFP

Australia's internet safety watchdog on Thursday threatened to fine Twitter for failing to tackle online abuse, saying Elon Musk's takeover had coincided with a spike in "toxicity and hate". E-safety commissioner Julie Inman Grant said Twitter would face fines of U.S. $475,000 for every day it missed the deadline. AFP

YINCHUAN

Cooking gas explosion kills 31 people in northwestern China

AP

Cooking gas caused a massive explosion at a barbecue restaurant in northwestern China, killing 31 people and injuring seven others during national celebrations on the eve of a long holiday weekend, authorities said on Thursday. The blast happened at a chain restaurant in Yinchuan, popular for its grilled skewers. AP

BEIJING

Beijing temperatures near record as extreme heat sweeps China

AP

Beijing on Thursday appeared to log its hottest June temperature since reliable records began, according to weather data and local media reports, as swathes of northern China sweltered in 41.1-degrees Celsius heat. The figure is half a degree higher than the station's previous record of 40.6 degrees Celsius in June 1961. AFP

UN official flags 'deficit of accountability' in Sri Lanka

The island nation will achieve neither genuine reconciliation nor sustainable peace as long as impunity prevails, says Nada Al-Nashif, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Accountability remains the "fundamental gap" in Sri Lanka's attempts to deal with the past, a senior UN official has said while warning that "as long as impunity prevails, Sri Lanka will achieve neither genuine reconciliation nor sustainable peace."

Referring to the Sri Lankan government's plans to set up a Truth Commission, to probe allegations of war crimes and grave human rights violations during the country's civil war, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights Nada Al-Nashif noted that Sri Lanka has "witnessed too many ad hoc commissions" in the past that failed to ensure accountability.

"What is needed is a coherent plan that connects the different elements of truth, redress, memorialisation, accountability and creates the right enabling environment for a successful and sustainable transitional justice process," she said, in an oral update to the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva on Wednesday.

Pursuit of peace: Ranil Wickeremesinghe speaking to his supporters in Colombo, Sri Lanka. FILE PHOTO

While it is fundamentally the Sri Lankan authorities' responsibility to directly acknowledge past violations and undertake credible investigations and prosecutions the international community can – and should – play complementary roles in the process until the "accountability deficit" remains, Ms. Al-Nashif said, amid known resistance within Sri Lanka's Sinhala-majority to any international participation.

Further, pointing to recent arrests of a stand-up comedian and a Tamil legislator, the UN official said the past months witnessed "the old reflex of using draconian laws to curtail opposition and control civic space, with a heavy-handed approach to protests far too often".

Dialogue with parties

While "encouraging" President Ranil Wickremesinghe's dialogue with Tamil political parties, and "welcoming" his promise to stop land acquisition for archaeological, forestry or security purposes, the UN official underscored the need for new laws, policies and practices that will "make good on these promises and bring about tangible changes".

Commenting on the island's persisting economic crisis, the Deputy Chief of Human Rights observed that it continues to severely impact the "rights and well-being of many Sri Lankans". Terming the International Monetary Fund's $2.9 billion support an "important first step", she called for "robust safety nets and social protection measures", in order to ensure that "the burden of reforms does not further compound inequalities."

Referring to last year's historic people's uprising in the island nation, that ousted former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Ms. Al-Nashif noted that the "full potential for the historic transformation that would address long-standing challenges has yet to be realised."

Israel destroys home of attacker in West Bank

Agence France-Presse
NABLUS

Israeli forces on Thursday demolished the home of a Palestinian accused of killing a soldier in the occupied West Bank, which has been hit by a new outbreak of violence.

This week, at least 17 people have been killed in the territory

Soldiers entered Nablus, a Palestinian city in the north of the West Bank, during the night and left at dawn after destroying Kamal Jouri's home in an apartment building, witnesses said.

The Army said that during the operation to demolish Jouri's home, "rioters opened fire on the soldiers, causing damage to a military vehicle".

Nasheed quits ruling MDP months ahead of election

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Parliamentary Speaker and former President of the Maldives Mohamed Nasheed has quit the ruling party, he said on Wednesday, amid growing speculation that he might run against incumbent President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in September from a newly floated party.

In a tweet put out late on Wednesday, Mr. Nasheed shared his resignation letter that said: "After taking into account how things are in the country at the moment, I don't think it is the best course of action for me to remain in this party".

Mr. Nasheed's decision to quit the MDP – he is a founding member – comes amid a deepening political struggle between him and his party colleague Mr. Solih over several issues.

Mohamed Nasheed

Mr. Solih won the MDP primary earlier this year and became the party's candidate for the September presidential polls. Soon after, Mr. Nasheed launched his own campaign, mobilising supporters to "reclaim" the party that, he said, was violating democratic principles. Last month, a dozen MPs from the MDP, now supporting Mr. Nasheed, launched a new party called The Democrats.

Although Mr. Nasheed is yet to make any formal announcement, it is widely expected that the leader will emerge the incumbent's main rival in the coming presidential race.

Meanwhile, the recent political developments in the Indian Ocean Archipelago have left the People's Majlis or Parliament of the Maldives in a deadlock, with two pending trust votes against Speaker Nasheed, and his deputy Eva Abdulla. The MDP on Thursday sought extraordinary sittings after Mr. Nasheed ignored repeated requests to extend the current session, local media reported.

U.S. approves Taiwan trade deal despite Chinese ire

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. lawmakers voted to greenlight an agreement aimed at deepening economic relations with Taiwan, prompting an irritated response from Beijing on Thursday.

The U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade streamlines customs checks, looks to improve regulatory procedures and establishes anti-corruption measures.

'Conflict of interest'

China said on Thursday that the move "seriously contravenes the U.S. side's stated commitment to maintain only unofficial relations with Taiwan".

Beijing "resolutely opposes" any nations with which it has diplomatic ties signing agreements "with connotations of sovereignty or of an official nature with China's Taiwan region," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement. Washington does not have official diplomatic relations with self-governing Taiwan, which China claims as part of its territory.

Washington has remained a key ally and arms supplier to Taiwan despite switching diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979.

No survivors from missing submersible, says OceanGate

Reuters

It brings a grim end to the massive search for the vessel that was lost during a voyage to the *Titanic*

The five people aboard a missing submersible are thought to be dead, according to the company that owns the vessel, bringing a grim end on Thursday to the massive search for the vessel that was lost during a voyage to the *Titanic*.

"These men were true explorers who shared a distinct spirit of adventure, and a deep passion for exploring and protecting the world's oceans," OceanGate Expeditions said in a statement. "Our hearts are with these five souls and every member of their families during this tragic time."

An unmanned deep-sea robot deployed from a Canadian ship discovered a "debris field" near where the century-old wreck is located, 4 km below the surface, the U.S. Coast Guard said earlier on Twitter. The agency has scheduled a press conference for 1900 GMT to discuss the findings.

Rescue teams from several countries have spent days searching thousands of square kilometres of open seas with planes and ships for any sign of the 6.7-metre Titan, operated by U.S.-based OceanGate Expeditions.

The submersible lost contact on Sunday morning with its support ship about an hour and 45 minutes into what should have been a two-hour descent.

The five people aboard included the British billionaire and explorer Hamish Harding, 58; Pakistani-born business magnate Shahzada Dawood, 48, and his 19-year-old son, Suleman, both British citizens; French oceanographer and Titanic expert Paul-Henri Nargeolet, 77, who had visited the wreck dozens of times; and Stockton Rush, the American founder and chief executive of OceanGate, who was piloting the submersible.

DELHI JAL BOARD, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (C)-06 THROUGH EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PR) SR-I
POCKET-D-7, ROHINI SECTOR-6, NEW DELHI-110085 Email:-eepsr11@gmail.com

Press Note
N.I.T. NO. 04(2023-24) (RE-INVITE)

Item No.	Name of work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender (Rs)	E/Money (EMD) in Rs.	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable)	Date of release of tender/Tender ID	Last date/ time of receipt of tender
1	Construction of 4 Nos. of Decentralized Sewage Treatment Plant and Sewage Pumping Station at Garhi Rindhala, Ghewra, Jaunti and Nizampur Village along with other associated / allied appurtenant work on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) for Ten years Operation & Maintenance and two years Defect Liability Period.	Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) BASIS	80,48,778.00/-	1500/-	Dated 20.06.2023 2023_DJB_243323_1	21.07.2023 upto 3:15 PM
2	Construction of 2 Nos. of Decentralized Sewage Treatment Plant and Sewage Pumping Station at Mohamadpur Majri Village and Kanjhawala Village along with other associated / allied appurtenant work on Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) for Ten years Operation & Maintenance and two years Defect Liability Period.	Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) BASIS	70,66,000.00/-	1500/-	Dated 20.06.2023 2023_DJB_243323_2	21.07.2023 upto 3:15 PM

Further all the details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in.
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) (Ashok Sharma) (N.K. Sharma)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 75(2023-24) EE(SDW) XII EE(PR)SR-I

THE HINDU GROUP

The Balasore tragedy

FRONTLINE
Battle for Balasaheb's legacy
POLITICS • PAGE 49
Can India-Nepal ties be reimagined?
WORLD AFFAIRS • PAGE 76
The tales that maps tell
ART • PAGE 90
THE STORY OF A TRAIN CRASH
What happened in Bahanaga Bazar railway station at 6:55 pm on June 2 that switched the Coromandel Express to a loop line where an ore-laden goods train was already standing?

FRONTLINE
Re-engineered. For smarter reading.

The train tragedy in Odisha is already out of the news cycle but many questions remain. Has the system been taking shortcuts? Were concerns left unattended? All signs point to an integral systems failure and that can happen only when earlier breakdowns have been ignored.

Unholy Mess
With Governor R.N. Ravi wading in with accusations, the prolonged battle for control of the famous Chola-era Chidambaram temple in Tamil Nadu has entered a fresh chapter.

Mapping Tales
Those faint lines and contours have led to expeditions, intrigues, and great wars. Exploring some of these stories through a recent exhibition organised by the Asiatic Society of Mumbai showcasing maps of the British-India period.

To subscribe, visit
bit.ly/3PA3zeU
or scan QR code

INBRIEF

Carborundum Universal names Rangarajan as MD

Carborundum Universal Ltd. (CUMI) has elevated Sridharan Rangarajan, Director - Finance and Strategy, as Managing Director with effect from August 3 for a period of five years. He succeeds N. Ananthaseshan, who will be retiring from service on August 2, the Murugappa Group firm said in a regulatory filing. Mr. Rangarajan joined CUMI in June 2011 as Chief Financial Officer. In January 2018, he took over as President and Group CFO of Murugappa Group.

Jeweller Kirtilals to invest ₹100 cr. in FY24 on expansion

Diamond jewellery manufacturer and retailer Kirtilals plans to invest ₹100 crore in FY24 for expansion of its retail operations and manufacturing facilities. Suraj Shantakumar, Director, Business Strategy, said Kirtilals would add five new stores this year to the existing network of 14 outlets. The company said it had posted a turnover of almost ₹1,000 crore last year and invested ₹10 crore in a separate production unit for Glow, its retail chain.

Venus Remedies gets nod to sell generic antibiotic in Spain

Pharma major Venus Remedies Ltd. on Thursday said it has secured marketing authorisation from Spain for its generic antibiotic meropenem. The company, which got the approval through its German subsidiary Venus Pharma GmbH for 500mg, 1g and 2g injections, said it is the largest exporter of meropenem from India in the last 3 years. Meropenem, used in ICUs as a last resort for treatment of life-threatening infections, contributes to 40% of the firm's total sales. PTI

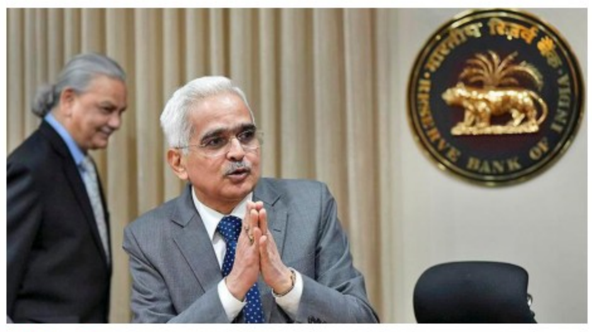
MPC stresses need for inflation vigil

RBI Governor Das says 'job is only half done with the fight against inflation not yet over'; Deputy Governor Patra stresses policy needs to remain in 'brace' mode to ensure shocks from supply-demand mismatches leave no scars on the economy

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The Monetary Policy Committee's job was only half done in having brought inflation within the target band, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das wrote in his statement, signalling the need for policymakers to remain vigilant on price stability, the minutes of the June 6-8 meeting of the MPC released by the RBI on Thursday show.

"Our fight against inflation is not yet over," Mr. Das wrote. "We need to undertake forward-looking assessment of the evolving inflation-growth outlook and stand ready to act," he observed.



Fickle nature: Adverse climate events had the potential to quickly change the direction of inflation trajectory, says Mr. Das. PTI

The MPC this month left interest rates unchanged for a second straight meeting, opting to 'assess the cumulative impact of the 250 basis points rate increases implemented over the past year' before taking any further monetary measures to align inflation to the target of 4%.

Observing that 'uncertainties on the inflation outlook had not abated with the spatial and temporal distribution of monsoon rainfall needing to be closely watched in the backdrop of a likely El Nino weather pattern', Mr. Das emphasised that 'adverse climate events had the potential to quickly change the direction of the inflation trajectory'.

"Given the prevailing uncertainties, it is difficult to give any definitive forward guidance about our future course of action in a rate tightening cycle," the RBI Governor added.

Cautioning that 'pressure points from specific supply-demand mismatches could impart upward pressure to the momentum of prices beyond the first quarter', Deputy Governor Michael D. Patra stressed that monetary policy needed to remain in 'brace' mode to ensure any shocks did not leave scars on the economy'.

Jayanth R. Varma, one of the three external MPC members and a voice of dissent at past meetings, asserted 'there remained significant risks to inflation and growth, and that the process of bringing inflation under control was still work in progress'.

Fitch upgrades India GDP growth to 6.3%, expects rate cuts early next year

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Thursday raised its forecast for India's economic growth to 6.3% for 2023-24 from 6% it had predicted previously, citing broad-based strength seen in the economy in metrics such as credit growth and auto sales in recent months.

The global rating major also said it now expects the Reserve Bank of India to maintain its pause on interest rate increases and start cutting rates early next year, shifting from its earlier forecast of at least another 0.25% rise in rates.

"India's economy has been showing broad-based strength--with GDP up by a higher than expected 6.1% year on year in Q1 of 2023 and auto sales, PMI [Purchasing Managers' Indices] surveys and credit growth remaining robust in recent months--and we have raised our forecast for the fiscal year ending in March 2024 by 0.3 percentage points to 6.3%," Fitch said in its latest Global Economic Outlook that also upgraded global GDP growth forecasts for 2023 to 2.4% from 2% predicted in March.

Fitch also took note of an uptick in power consumption in the Indian economy, which "continues to benefit from high infrastructure spending" and said the estimated 6.3% GDP growth this fiscal will be "one of the highest growth rates in the world".

"India's economy will be affected to an extent by slowing global trade. Domestically the full impact of 250bps (basis points) of monetary tightening is still to be felt. Consumers have also experienced a drop in purchasing power as inflation increased sharply in 2022 and household balance sheets have also been weakened through the pandemic," the outlook cautioned. One basis point equals 0.01%.

"At the same time, the government's push on increased capital expenditure, moderation in commodity prices and robust credit growth are expected to support investment," it underlined.

BoE raises key rate to 5% to tackle sticky inflation

Reuters
LONDON

The Bank of England (BoE) raised interest rates by a bigger-than-expected half a percentage point, after it said there had been "significant" news suggesting British inflation would take longer to fall.

The BoE's Monetary Policy Committee voted 7-2 to raise its main interest rate to 5% from 4.5%, the highest since 2008 and largest rate rise since February, following stickier inflation and wage growth since policymakers last met in May.

Telecom firms set sights on contested 6GHz spectrum

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Even as lakhs of 5G base stations around the country remain unused, the telecom industry is laying the groundwork to secure more spectrum in the 6 gigahertz (GHz) band, a demand that will play out over the coming years and pit telecom operators against technology firms.

The latter argue, as *The Hindu* had reported, spectrum in the 6GHz band should be freed up for Wi-Fi, as current technologies – which largely run on 2.4GHz and 5GHz frequencies – can get clogged by the huge number of devices in use, even if data usage by connected devices was not that high. Wi-Fi on 6GHz does not face this problem. However, the government is yet to delicense or sell spectrum on the band.

The tech industry, through the Broadband India Forum, argued in April for delicensing, which would open up the spectrum's use for Wi-Fi. Government officials at the event cautiously struck a balance between the competing interests, at one point indicating that middle ground may have to be found on the issue.

"5G offers better speeds than Wi-Fi [and] will be [the] preferred option for consumers, as it offers mobility with high speed and capacity, compared to the stationary service of Wi-Fi," Cellular Operators Association of India DG S. P. Kochhar said in a slide.

"India, which is already starved of spectrum and facing challenges to meet the continually-rising demand for data services, cannot afford to experiment with such a valuable commodity to satisfy the wishes of select segments," the COAI official added.

Eviden bags $100 mn supercomputer order from NCMRWF

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Eviden, an Atos Group business, said it has been awarded a $100 million contract by the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) on behalf of the India Ministry of Earth Sciences, to build two new supercomputers dedicated to weather modelling and climate research for the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras and NCMRWF.

The NCMRWF supercomputer, to be located in Noida, would have an 8.3-Petaflop computing capacity for weather and climate modelling to support advanced numerical weather research, said Eviden in a statement.

'Augmenting capacity'

Dr. M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, said "weather and climate research requires massive computing power. This partnership with Atos Group will augment our current capacity to increase resolutions and accuracy of weather forecasts."

These two new supercomputers, based on Eviden's BullSequana XH2000, would have a combined capacity of up to 21.3 Petaflops, the French firm further said.

ALL enters pact with IDBI Bank to offer dealer finance

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Ashok Leyland Limited (ALL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IDBI Bank Ltd. to offer customised financial solutions to its dealers.

The e-Supply Chain Financing solution will enable Ashok Leyland's dealers to access working capital easily through a digital process. It will eliminate the complexities associated with paper-based financing, empowering businesses to manage their cash flows better and accelerate growth, the commercial vehicles manufacturer said in a statement.

Indians' funds in Swiss banks slid 11% to ₹30,000 cr. in '22

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI/ZURICH

Funds parked by Indian individuals and firms in Swiss banks, including through India-based branches and other financial institutions, declined by 11% in 2022 to 3.42 billion Swiss francs (almost ₹30,000 crore), annual data from Switzerland's central bank showed.

The drop from a 14-year-high of CHF 3.83 billion in 2021, followed two consecutive years of rise and was largely driven by a sharp plunge of almost 34% in customer-deposit accounts from a seven-year high.

On the other hand, the 'locational banking statistics' of the Bank for International Settlement, described in the past by Indian and Swiss authorities as a more reliable measure for deposits by Indian individuals in Swiss banks, showed a drop of more than 18% in 2022 to $94.4 million (₹781 crore).

Dipped by 8%

It had slid by more than 8% in 2021, after rising by almost 39% in 2020. It peaked at more than $2.3 billion at the end of 2007. Swiss authorities have always maintained assets held by Indian residents in Switzerland cannot be considered as 'black money.'

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	63,239	-0.45
US Dollar	81.98	0.03
Gold	59,550	-0.33
Brent oil	74.15	-3.85

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2397.25	-8.70
Adani Ports	745.60	-3.85
Apollo Hosp	5066.00	-52.75
Asian Paints	3248.05	-68.05
Axis Bank	966.60	0.60
Bajaj Auto	4612.10	-38.05
Bajaj Finserv	1507.65	-11.60
Bajaj Finance	7030.00	-176.15
Bharti Airtel	842.80	3.80
BPCL	373.40	0.60
Britannia Ind	4987.05	-82.50
Cipla	998.30	-10.60
Coal India	226.95	-1.50
Divis Lab	3543.85	34.30
Dr Reddys Lab	4899.45	-10.95
Eicher Motors	3558.60	-11.85
Grasim Ind	1750.30	-27.60
HCL Tech	1163.40	-7.05
HDFC	2715.90	13.90
HDFC Bank	1643.60	8.00
HDFC Life	639.00	-3.50
Hero MotoCorp	2825.05	1.50
Hindalco	420.05	-0.90
Hind Unilever	2654.35	-22.25
ICICI Bank	925.75	1.05
IndusInd Bank	1272.70	-13.90
Infosys	1281.55	-17.80
ITC	447.65	0.60
JSW Steel	752.35	-6.40
Kotak Bank	1836.10	-9.45
L&T	2416.25	21.80
M&M	1378.70	4.45
Maruti Suzuki	9403.05	-37.80
NestleIndia	22532.90	-358.70
NTPC	184.50	-3.00
ONGC	158.95	-1.25
PowerGrid Corp	253.55	-4.65
Reliance Ind	2535.50	-28.80
SBI Life	1276.50	-18.45
State Bank	562.95	-3.40
Sun Pharma	990.30	-1.60
TataConsumerProduct	841.90	-18.25
Tata Motors	569.35	-12.05
Tata Steel	111.10	-2.80
TCS	3238.50	-19.70
Tech Mahindra	1119.05	-0.85
Titan	2970.25	-0.85
UltraTech Cement	8162.75	-78.80
UPL	674.40	-11.70
Wipro	382.30	-3.20

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 22

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.75	82.07
Euro	89.97	90.32
British Pound	104.54	104.96
Japanese Yen (100)	57.55	57.78
Chinese Yuan	11.39	11.43
Swiss Franc	91.54	91.91
Singapore Dollar	60.95	61.20
Canadian Dollar	62.13	62.38
Malaysian Ringitt	17.55	17.64
Australian Dollar	55.50	55.73

Source:Indian Bank

Sport

IOC guarantees boxing's place at Olympic Games

Agence France Presse
LAUSANNE

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) on Thursday withdrew its recognition of boxing's governing body, the International Boxing Association (IBA), but said the sport would be on the programme at the 2024 and 2028 Games in Paris and Los Angeles.

The IOC executive board voted by 69 to one, with 10 abstentions, to expel the IBA from the Olympic Movement in a seismic move for the sport.

The IOC's decision brings to an end four years of sparring between the Olympic body and the under-fire custodians of a sport that has appeared at every Games since 1904.

IBA's reaction

Reacting to the development, the IBA said the IOC had made a "tremendous error" by withdrawing its recognition and "today's decision is catastrophic for global boxing and blatantly contradicts the IOC's claims of acting in the best interests of boxing and athletes."

The IBA was suspended by the IOC in 2019 for multiple corruption scandals.

Prannoy eases past Sugiarto, enters quarters

TAIPEI OPEN

Press Trust of India
TAIPEI

H.S. Prannoy waltzed into the quarterfinals of the Taipei Open after recording a comfortable straight-game win over Indonesia's Tommy Sugiarto here on Thursday.

Prannoy, the country's top-ranked men's singles player, took 36 minutes to dispatch former world championship bronze medallist Sugiarto 21-9, 21-17 in the BWF World Tour Super 300 tournament.

Meets Long

The World No. 9 will play Hong Kong's fifth seed Angus Ng Ka Long in the last eight stage. Prannoy, who claimed the Malaysia Masters Super 300 title last month, has enjoyed a good run recently.

Facile win: Prannoy was hardly troubled by Sugiarto in their 36-minute encounter. FILE PHOTO: AFP

Last week, he put up an impressive display at the Indonesia Open, a Super 1000 tournament, making it to the semifinals, where he lost to World No. 1 and eventual winner Viktor Axelsen of Denmark.

Prannoy is the lone Indian remaining in the competition.

P. Kashyap went down 16-21, 17-21 to local favourite Su Li Yang.

It was also the end of the road for the mixed doubles pair of Sikki Reddy and Rohan Kapoor.

The Indian duo was handed a 13-21, 18-21 defeat by Taipei's Chiu Hsiang Chieh and Lin Xiao Min.

Going down tamely

Tanya Kamath also didn't pose any real threat as she went down 11-21, 6-21 to World Championship and Olympic silver medallist Tai Tzu Ying.

The results

(pre-quarterfinals): Men: H.S. Prannoy bt Tommy Sugiarto (Ina) 21-9, 21-17; Su Li Yang (Tpe) bt P. Kashyap 21-16, 21-17.

Women: Tai Tzu Ying (Tpe) bt Tanya Kamath 21-11, 21-6.

Mixed doubles: Chiu Hsiang Chieh & Lin Xiao Min (Tpe) bt Sikki Reddy & Rohan Kapoor 21-13, 21-18.

It's now a one-bout competition for protesting wrestlers

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The IOA ad-hoc panel has reduced the upcoming Asian Games and World Championship selection to a one-bout competition for six protesting wrestlers, who will be required to beat just the winners of the trials to seal their places in the Indian teams for the two prestigious events.

Six wrestlers

The six wrestlers – Vinesh Phogat, Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik, Sangeeta Phogat, Satywart Kadian and Jitender Kinha – have not just got the exemption from appearing in the initial trials, they have also been promised that they will compete against the winners of the trials between August 5 and 15.

Ad-hoc panel head Bhupender Singh Bajwa communicated the decision to the wrestlers on June 16.

"The trial of these wrestlers will be conducted with the winners of the respective weight categories for Asian Games/World Championships Olympic qualification trials conducted for participation, if done previously," the letter read.

UNREPENTANT

Will do it again if it's needed to protect our boys, says Stimac

India head coach Igor Stimac was unrepentant after his red-card offence in the SAFF Championship opener against Pakistan on Wednesday. "Football is all about passion, especially when you defend the colours of your country. I will do it again when needed to protect our boys against unjustified decisions."

NARROW MISS

Perry falls for 99 but Australia in command in women's Ashes Test

Ellyse Perry missed out on an Ashes Test century by a run on a rain-hit first day of the one-off match against England as the Australian Women reached 328/7 at stumps at Trent Bridge on Thursday. **The scores:** Australia 328/7 in 85 overs (Perry 99, McGrath 61, Gardner 40, Sutherland 39 batting, Ecclestone 3/71) vs. England.

STATUS QUO

ICC rejects Pakistan's request to swap 2023 World Cup venues

The ICC has denied Pakistans request to switch the venues for its ODI World Cup 2023 matches against Australia and Afghanistan. Pakistan wanted to play Australia in Chennai instead of Bengaluru and Afghanistan in Bengaluru instead of Chennai, but its request was turned down.

SMOOTH SAILING

Easy for Ayhika, Sathiyan-Manika in WTT Contender Tunis

Ayhika Mukherjee defeated Xiaotong Wang of China 11-8, 11-3, 11-2 and Harmeet Desai upset Lim Jonghoon of Korea 11-9, 7-11, 7-11, 11-7, 11-8 in WTT Contender opening round in Tunis on Thursday. Sathiyan and Manika Batra made the quarterfinals with a 11-3, 11-3, 11-6 win over Algeria's Abdelbasset Chaichi and Malissa Nasri..

Record-setting Chhetri, self-effacing as ever, prefers to focus on the collective

India striker downplays his personal milestone of reaching 90 international goals and climbing to fourth on the all-time list, says he is happier with the team achieving its target of keeping a clean sheet; the skipper feels that there's a lot to improve on but the side is on the right track

SAFF C'SHIPS

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Cynosure: Chhetri says that though there is a lot that the Indian team can improve on, it is still on the right track. K. MURALI KUMAR

Sportspersons are great lovers of symmetry. They crave records that give a sense of completeness and have rhythmic allure – like Novak Djokovic winning all three Majors at least thrice and Usain Bolt's 'three-peat' of the 100m and 200m Olympic golds.

Sunil Chhetri's hat-trick in the 4-0 victory over Pakistan in the SAFF Championship opener may well bring the India skipper a similar feeling. It was against the same opponent that a 21-year-old Chhetri scored his debut international goal way back in 2005.

Nearly two decades down the line, he was still haunting Pakistan, scoring his fourth career international hat-trick to move up to 90 goals, the fourth-highest tally in the all-time list behind Cristiano Ronaldo (123), Iran's Ali Daei (109) and Lionel Messi (103).

But in his typically understated manner, Chhetri downplayed the personal milestone and sought to focus on the collective.

"We will speak about that once I am done one day," the 38-year-old said. "I am happy, [but] more happy and satisfied because we kept a clean sheet. It was the first target the team had set for itself.

"In tournaments, numbers will matter. At 2-0, that was the meeting we had inside [the dressing room]. When you have the opportunity, and you are dominant, you make it count. Thankfully we did that.

"There were a few good things we did and I am sure the coach will tell us things that we could improve on. Things are going to get difficult from here. But the way we are playing, we are quite confident, and playing here (Bengaluru), we always feel powerful."

The four-goal performance can help grease the wheels of this Indian team, for at the Intercontinental Cup in Bhubaneswar, despite winning the title, the host stuttered, managing just five goals from four games.

On Wednesday, fans also witnessed some slick combination play involving the likes of Chhetri, Anirudh Thapa, Sahal Abdul Samad, Lallianzuala Chhangte and Anwar Ali.

"In international games, getting goals is not easy, no matter who you are playing and where," Chhetri stressed. "In the Intercontinental Cup, in the first game, we got two goals (vs Mongolia), then a goal against Vanuatu and then against Lebanon it was 0-0 which wasn't easy. In the final we got two goals again.

"Yes, we did miss a lot of chances, but on the other hand, we created some. I am sure we have a lot to improve on. But we are on the right track," Chhetri added.

Lebanon off to a winning start

Breaking through: Maatouk, who was in the thick of things, scored the opening goal for Lebanon. K. MURALI KUMAR

Aneesh Dey
BENGALURU

Lebanon clinched a 2-0 win against Bangladesh in its opening Group-B fixture of the 2023 SAFF Championship at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium here on Thursday.

Lebanon dominated the first 45, with its best chance coming from a free-kick in the 34th minute.

Ali Al Haj floated a cross towards Hassan Kourani, who headed the ball straight at Bangladesh keeper Anisur Rahman, forcing the latter to make a point-blank save.

The second-half started with both teams having chances in a span of five minutes. Hassan Matouk of Lebanon and Foysal Ahjmad Fahim of Bangladesh scuffed their respective chances to keep the match goalless.

The breakthrough came in the 79th minute. Lebanon's Karim Darwich went for the unselfish route and squared the ball to Maatouk inside the box, who lashed the ball into the net.

Khalil Badrid bagged the Cedars' second in second-half additional time.

Zein Al Abidine Farran collected a loose ball on the right side of the Bangladesh box and squared it to Bader in the centre, who converted one of the easiest chances he would ever get.

In the day's second match, Maldives defeated Bhutan 2-0.

Hamza Mohammed opened the scoring via a penalty in the sixth minute before Naiz Hassan doubled the lead as late as the 90th.

In CSK, all of us believe in the team's cause: Dube

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Dube. V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

Shivam Dube, one of the star performers in Chennai Super Kings' successful campaign in IPL 2023, said he wanted to stay in the present and not think too much ahead.

"I don't want to think about what is going to happen. I prefer to focus on the bowler only when facing him and be prepared for any challenge," Dube said in an interaction on the sidelines of a promotional event after signing as the brand ambassador for Parimatch Sports here on Thursday.

"I feel better to live in the present and focus on every ball. Otherwise, you will feel the pressure," said the 29-year-old.

Reflecting on the positives in the IPL, Dube said it felt good to be a team man. "In CSK, all of us believe in the team's cause. Like, even if I do well and the team loses, it doesn't make me happy. We want the team to win and not look for individual happiness," Dube said.

> We want the team to win and not look for individual happiness. The best part was the kind of support and backing I got from Super Kings

"Honestly, there was not much change in my batting style. The best part was the kind of support and backing I got from Super Kings, including captain Mahi *bhai*, teammates and support staff," he said.

"I felt very happy when Mahi *bhai* told me that I could win some matches on my own. That lifted my confidence level a lot," he said.

"The most exciting moments of my journey so far was being selected to the Indian team (he has played one ODI and 13 T20Is) and being a member of the victorious CSK in the IPL," Dube said.

"Being at the non-striker's end when Jaddu *bhai* (Ravindra Jadeja) hit that winning boundary in the IPL final was truly unforgettable," he recalled.

Dube said that Ambati Rayudu was the most serious of all the players in CSK and Deepak Chahar topped the list of pranksters.

Indian contingent bags 15 gold, crosses the 50-medal mark

Memorable outing: Neel struck it rich winning a couple of medals, while Sidhanth claimed the bronze in 25m freestyle.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Press Trust of India
BERLIN

India continued its medal rush at the Special Olympics World Summer Games, crossing the 50-medal mark here on Wednesday.

At the end of the day's action, Special Olympics (SO) Bharat totalled 55 medals, including 15 gold, 27 silver and 13 bronze spread across five disciplines – athletics, cycling, powerlifting, roller skating and swimming.

India clinched five medals in swimming – three golds, a silver and a bronze – and six on the cycling track – three gold, two silver and one bronze.

Every member of the cycling team won a medal and Neel Yadav was the first to do so, claiming bronze in the 5km road race.

Later Neel, Shivani and Indu Prakash won gold medals in the 1km time trial, while Kalpana Jena and Jeyaseela Arbutharaj took home the silver.

In the pool events, India's medal-count almost doubled as freestyle swimmers Diksha Jitendra Shirgaonkar, Pooja Giridharrao Gaikavada and Prashaddhi Kamble took home the gold.

Madhav Madan added another medal to his tally (25m freestyle gold) and Sidhanth Murali Kumar won the bronze in 25m freestyle.

Saket Kundu got silver in the mini javelin Level-B.

He is a multi-sport athlete, who has competed in table tennis, figure skating and athletics at the national-level.

upGrad Mumba Masters and Ganges Grandmasters post wins

Sports Bureau

upGrad Mumba Masters and Ganges Grandmasters got off to winning starts as the Global Chess League, featuring some of the world's top players, commenced in Dubai on Thursday.

Playing black, upGrad Mumba Masters, helmed by Maxime Vachier-Lagerave, got the better of Levon Aronian's Triveni Continental Kings by 8 Game Points to 7 in a thrilling encounter.

In the second match, Ganges Grandmasters, with five-time World champion Viswananthan Anand leading the charge, proved too good for Chingari Gulf Titans and emerged victorious with a 10-4 verdict.

Friday's matches:

SG Alpine Warriors vs Balan Alaskan Knights; Kings vs Titans; Grandmasters vs Warriors; Masters vs Knights.

INBRIEF

Jayant Yadav to lead North Zone in Duleep Trophy

Haryana all-rounder Jayant Yadav will lead North Zone in the upcoming Duleep Trophy after senior batter Mandeep Singh was ruled out of the tournament owing to an injury. Punjab batter Nehal Wadhera, who made an impression for Mumbai Indians in the IPL and was a stand-by, has been named in the main squad.

Stride FC scores a 2-0 win over Aces FC

Stride FC defeated Aces FC 2-0 in the Bangalore North & South 'C' division teams league football championship in Bengaluru.

The results: Bob Marley FC 2 (Naven Eshwar 63, Shrisha Bangara 70+2) drew with Football Aura (Apoorv Amulya Barwa 24, Harish Rajan Kumar 70+3); Stride FC 2 (Vedanta Banerjee 51, Kapil Bhat 64) bt Aces FC 0.

Long jumper Jeswin pulls out of Lausanne Diamond League

Jeswin Aldrin, who figured in the entry list put up on Wednesday night for the Lausanne meet to be held on June 30, won't be taking part according to Manisha Malhotra, JSW Sports' Head of Sports Excellence.

UEFA bans Mourinho for four games for abusing referee

AS Roma head coach Jose Mourinho has been suspended for its next four matches in the Europa League after the Portuguese directed abusive language at referee Anthony Taylor while the club was fined €55,000, Europe's football body UEFA said on Wednesday.

Rayaan Razmi. FILE PHOTO

Rayaan wins Asian U-21 snooker bronze

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

India's Rayaan Razmi finished with a bronze medal after suffering a 4-3 defeat at the hands of Milad Pourali Darehchi of Iran in the semifinals of the Asian under-21 snooker in Tehran on Wednesday.

The 21-year-old had topped Group-D and finished as the top-ranked player in knockout phase. However, Darehchi won the last-four clash 23-86, 80-50, 71-11, 1-81, 24-59, 47-33, 70-32.

Pakistan's Ahsan Ramzan emerged the champion after a 48-46, 70-5, 61-6, 62-29, 30-71, 55-67, 101-27 victory over Darehchi.

LIVE TELECAST

CWC 2023 Qualifiers: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), Hotstar & FanCode, 12.30 p.m.

Women's Ashes: Only Test, day 2, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 p.m.

FIH Pro League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8.40 & 11.10 p.m.

'More events needed to raise awareness'

Karnataka men's team skipper Dhanush Murthy says it is imperative to educate major stakeholders, especially the common public, on the sport

WATER POLO

Leon Sajan
BENGALURU

Aquatics in general has been dominated by swimming, because of which other disciplines like diving and water polo have rarely received attention.

A lack of awareness, education and infrastructure is what is keeping the sport from growing, according to Karnataka senior men's water polo captain, K. Dhanush Murthy.

Murthy, who is leading the State in the ongoing 76th senior water polo Nationals at the Basavanagudi Aquatic Centre, believes that the sport has a lot of scope for growth.

But this can only be possible if all the major stakeholders, especially the common public, are educated on the sport.

"The first water polo club Nationals, held in Bengaluru before COVID-19, was aimed at creating a platform solely for the sport. It was a huge success, and the second edition took place in Hyderabad in February this year.

Catch 'em young: Dhanush Murthy advocates taking the aquatic sport to schools to increase the popularity. LEON SAJAN

"More events and competitions like these will help to increase the awareness and level of competition of the sport," said Murthy.

For the sport to gain popularity, it must be introduced in schools. Not many educational institutions have the purse to build a swimming pool and employ coaches to teach about various water sports.

"Theory classes about the sport could be a better alternative for such schools as most students are used to learning from books," remarked Murthy.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Sourav, Palak claim platform diving gold

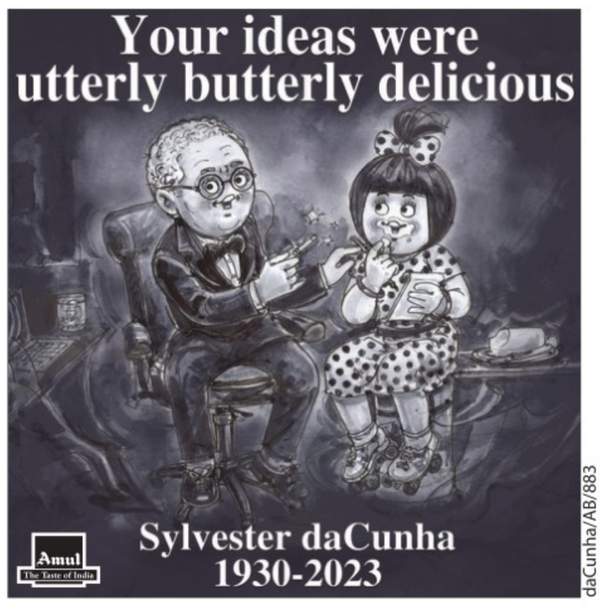
Services Sports Control Board's Sourav Debnath won the diving high board men's platform in the 76th Senior National Aquatic Championships held here on Thursday.

In the women's platform event, Madhya Pradesh's Palak Sharma emerged victorious.

Massive nine-shot lead for Vidhatri

Vidhatri Urs built a massive nine-shot lead with one round to go in the ninth leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Prestige Golfshire here.

Vidhatri followed her first round with a five-under 67. Rookie pro Kriti Chowhan (three-under 141 overall) lies second, while amateur Saanvi Somu, Sachika Singh and Seher Atwal (all two-under 142) sit in third spot.



Asian C'ships: India to send 54 athletes

Sports Bureau
KOCHI

The Athletics Federation of India has named a 54-member team for the Asian Championships, to be held in Bangkok from July 12 to 16, on Thursday.

With this year having majors like the World Championships and Asian Games, the AFI has decided to keep Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra and Commonwealth Games 3000m steeplechase silver medallist Avinash Sable out of the Asian meet.

The team: Men: Rajesh Ramesh, Muhammed Ajmal (both 400m, 4x400m relay and 4x400m mixed relays), Krishan Kumar, Muhammed Afsal (800m), Ajay Kumar Saroj , Jinson Johnson (1500m), Gulveer Singh, Abhishek Pal (5000 & 10,000m), Mohd Nurhasan, Bal Kishan (3000m steeple chase), Yashal Palaksha, Santhosh Kumar Tamilarasan (400m hurdles), Tejaswin Shankar (decathlon), Sarvesh Anil Kushare (high jump), Jeswin Aldrin, M. Sreeshankar (long jump), Praveen Chihravel, Abdulla Aboobacker (triple jump), Tajinderpal Singh Toor, Karanveer Singh (shot put), Rohit Yadav, D.P. Manu (javelin throw), Akshdeep Singh, Vikash Singh (20km race walk), Nihal Joel William, Mijo Chacko Kurian, Muhammed Anas (4x400m relay), Amoj Jacob (4x400m relay & 4x400m mixed relay).

Women: Jyothi Yarraji (200m & 100m hurdles), Aiswarya Kailash Mishra (400m, 4x400m relay & 4x400m mixed relay), Chanda, Lavika Sharma (800m), Lili Das (1500m), Ankita, Parul Chaudhary (5000m & 3000m steeple chase), Sanjivani Jadhav (10,000m), Priti (3000m steeple chase), Nithya Ramraj (100m hurdles), Pooja, Rubina Yadav (high jump), Baranica Elangovan (pole vault), Shaili Singh, Ancy Sojan (long jump), Abha Khatua, Manpreet Kaur (shot put), Annu Rani (javelin throw), Swapna Barman (heptathlon), Priyanka, Bhawna Jat (20km walk), Rezoana Mallick Heena, Jyothika Sri Dandi (4x400m relay & 4x400m mixed relay), Anjali Devi, Jisna Mathew, Subha Venkatesan (4x400m relay).

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